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ABSTRACT

This compilation contains the verbatim texts of recommendations made by states' delegates from 16 northeastern states participating in the Baltimore regional conference of the White House Conference on Families. The recommendations are organized by topic for each of the individual states. Topics include the following as related to the family: work policies: income supports: housing: the legal system: health and social services: the media: education: transportation: world problems: federal policy: the elderly: religion: child care: abortion: ethnic and cultural diversity: alcoholism: drug abuse: food and clothing costs: tax reform: and teenage pregnancy. States and territories participating in the Baltimore conferences were Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania. (Author/SS)

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White House
Conference on FAMILIES

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SUMMARY
of
STATE REPORTS

Volume One

BALTIMORE • MINNEAPOLIS • LOS ANGELES

White House
Conference on FAMILIES

INTRODUCTION

Unlike previous Conferences the White House Conference on Families is taking its issues directly from the reports of state activities. This book contains the verbatim text of recommendations from states whose delegates will attend the White House Conference in Baltimore. Other volumes which contain the reports from states attending the White House Conferences in Minneapolis and Los Angeles will be available at the Baltimore Conference. The size of all these reports prevents us from mailing the other two volumes to you but they will be available at the Baltimore Conference.

We thought it would be essential to share with you the results of these state activities because they represent the hard work and best efforts of thousands upon thousands of Americans who chose to spend a weekend or day in a high school gymnasium or college campus preparing for the WHCF. They spent long hours discussing some of the key problems facing American families and developing recommendations to address those problems. These recommendations are not the result of some prestigious task force or committee. They are not always tidy or perfectly written. But they do represent the concerns of real families and attempts to reach a consensus position. For these reasons, they are far more eloquent and valuable and they hold great promise of leading to real action.

Format

Many state reports came to the WHCF beautifully bound and full of impressive documentation of their state activities. You will not find these descriptions in this volume. It contains in their most simple form the recommendations of the states without editing, summarizing or comments by the WHCF. We simply took the reports and reprinted them for your use. Time, volume, and financial restraints prevented us from even re-typing them. For reasons of length, minority reports or other additions to the recommendations are not reprinted, but will be on file at the Resource Room at the Conference facility. States which have minority reports on file are indicated by an asterisk (*). The Table of Contents reports the topics covered by the states in their own words. It should be a useful tool in locating recommendations which will be dealt with in particular workgroups. Some states sent no issues report, partial reports, or reports so massive that they cannot be included in this volume. We continue to work with these states and hope to have their final reports available at the Conferences.

I urge you to read these recommendations with care. They represent the hopes, concerns and hard won agreements of thousands of Americans.

Jim Guy Tucker
Chairperson
White House Conference
on Families

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CONNECTICUT

Topic: Families and Work Policies

Issue I: What is the proper role of government in affecting the economic functioning of families?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The proper role of government is to enhance, but not control, the family's ability to function as an economic unit. This policy constitutes the philosophical base from which we have considered each of the issues and recommendations which follow.

Issue II: How can society work toward full employment?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Recognize that full employment can be assisted through government policy as enunciated in the Humphrey-Hawkins Act.
2. Recognize the need for public education as to the content of affirmative action laws, and the reasons for them.
3. Looking forward to the problems and opportunities inherent in the predicted labor shortages in the '80's and '90's, plan to make all potential workers skilled and trained for the jobs which will actually exist, emphasizing education for flexibility in adapting to changing job markets.

Program Recommendations:

1. Strengthen monitoring of compliance with affirmative action laws, especially in small businesses.
2. Redirect and expand where necessary programs of career counselling, vocational education, and manpower training, involving the cooperative efforts of State, Federal, and local governments, private business, local boards of education, community organizations and agencies, and labor unions. Such activities should be directed at actual labor market needs.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Contact the entities listed under Program Recommendations 2, above.
2. Use the public media.
3. Encourage participation of above groups in these cooperative efforts by providing incentives as appropriate.

Issue III: What work supports are needed to facilitate participation in the job market?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Recognize the contributions made to the family's economy by the homemaker's work at home.
2. Recognize the existence of increasing numbers of "displaced homemakers," defined as "people, usually women, who have been married for some years and because of separation, divorce, widowhood, or the disability of the supporting spouse, are forced out of the home and into the labor market in a crisis situation." Recognize their need for marketable skills and, possibly, for emotional support.
3. Recognize the need of families in an inflated economy to have two breadwinners, and that this creates special needs where there are dependents.
4. Recognize that connecting labor markets with job markets requires the provision of public transportation, especially during energy shortages.
5. Reform the income tax structure so as to achieve an equitable impact on all.
6. Reform the Social Security System so as to achieve an equitable impact on all.

Program Recommendations:

1. Adjust Social Security taxes/benefits to:
    a. reward the economic contribution to the family made by the homemaker's work at home;
    b. prevent two-earner married couples from having to pay twice for the same benefits;
    c. provide equity in benefit rights for displaced homemakers.
2. Allow individuals complete freedom to choose the tax tables which will give them the greatest benefits as a way to address the marriage penalty problem.
3. Reduce the income depressing effect of the progressive income tax during times of high inflation.
4. Eliminate tax loopholes which are not beneficial to the public interest.
5. Institute greatly augmented systems of public transportation.
6. Facilitate the creation of optional childcare and daycare for the elderly and the handicapped who are dependent upon their families.
7. Inventory, coordinate, and fill-in existing gaps in services with special attention to those which can be useful to displaced homemakers.

Issue IV: How can work policies of business support the family structure?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Recognize at the employer's level possible adverse effects on family life of transfer of employees, including loss of established emotional supports provided by a given community, the potential loss of status by spouses and children, and interference with the careers of other family members.

2. Recognize the need for flexibility in work schedules to accommodate families.
3. Recognize that the decisions of businesses to relocate have impact on families.
4. Provide working conditions which reinforce the dignity of workers as individuals, recognizing that the pressures of the workplace can affect families either positively or negatively.

Program Recommendations:

1. Encourage the development of support systems within communities for facilitating the quick adjustment of newcomers, using resources of corporations, public schools, social agencies, churches, employment agencies, and private organizations.
2. Flex-time and part-time options should be incorporated into work schedules.
3. Evaluate the impact of federal taxes on decisions of businesses to relocate.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Work through the entities listed under Program 1, above.
2. Contact employers and labor unions.

Issue V: How can families be protected against inflation?

Policy Recommendations:

1. We believe it essential that Government institute a permanent program to control inflation.

Program Recommendations:

1. Government should work with society toward clear definitions and evaluations of goals, and to understand the economic trade-offs necessary within their framework.
2. Government should enforce the laws of business competition, and encourage the efficient use of resources.

TOPIC: FAMILIES AND INCOME SUPPORTS

Issue I: How can income support policies be made compatible with the work ethic?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Widen definitions of "work" to include both performance in remunerative jobs and the discharge of mutual responsibilities within the households.
2. Interpret welfare payments to families who are without other means of support forthrightly as a societal investment in enabling parents to keep families physically and emotionally healthy and together.
3. Remove work disincentives from the system and encourage aspirations for better conditions.

Program Recommendations:

1. Remove the hazards inherent in losing Medicaid eligibility by designing medical insurance covering basic care for all citizens employed in jobs for which such coverage is not provided by employers.
2. Make day-care and after-school care available on an optional basis to all families, in safe and nurturing facilities.
3. Consider the need for public transportation connecting the poor with job markets as a high priority.
4. For those on welfare rolls, permit flexibility in the fixing of asset levels which are permissable before loss of benefits.
5. Strengthen and refine job training programs aimed at connecting the poor with real job markets as a more constructive alternative to "workfare," which, because of its punitive nature, further demeans work.
6. Calibrate the Social Security tax rate in such a way as to require a smaller percentage of withholding for entry-level paychecks.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Institute a forceful program of informing the public about (a) the purpose of welfare; (b) its place in a healthy society; (c) dilemmas facing the welfare population; and (d) characteristics of the welfare population.
2. Monitor the legislative process and keep legislators informed as to the above.

Issue II: Should income maintenance be administered separately from supportive social services?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Consider income maintenance as only one social service in a matrix of social services designed to move people perceptibly along the spectrum from relative dependence to relative independence.

Program Recommendations:

1. Encourage states to develop programs of administration which will ensure a linkage, at least at the point of delivery, between applicants for welfare, whether they are technically eligible for welfare or not, with services designed to help them solve both seminal and temporary problems.
2. Encourage states to develop plans for administration which will guarantee each welfare applicant the attention of one worker who will be available to him on a continuing basis.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Contact writers of regulations at the Department of Health and Human Services.

Issue III: Can income supports be administered so as to keep families together?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Reexamine the system to identify those parts which tend to make more public monies available the further the individual is removed from family supports.

Program Recommendations:

1. Mandate the Unemployed Parent Program in all states, or, preferably, combine it and the AFDC Program into one Aid-To-Families Program.
2. Do not penalize by the present one-third reduction in subsidy those recipients of Suplementary Security Income who live with relatives.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Contact the Department of Health and Human Services and Congressional representatives.

Issue IV: Can reliance on welfare by successive generations of one family be prevented?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Consider all programs from the perspective of how they can interrupt, or prevent, such a cycle.

Program Recommendations:

1. Redirect and expand where necessary programs of career counselling, vocational education, and manpower training, involving the cooperative efforts of State, Federal, and local governments, private business, local boards of education, community organizations and agencies, and labor unions. Such activities should be directed at actual labor market needs.
2. Consider the need for public transportation connecting the poor with job markets as a high priority.
3. Design medical insurance covering basic care for all citizens employed in jobs for which such coverage is not provided by employer, so as to remove the fear of losing medical coverage.
4. Provide public transportation connecting the poor with job markets.
5. Ensure linkage between welfare recipients and professional workers trained in the arts of prevention, intervention, and problem-solving.
6. Make counselling, education, and job training available to unwed, pregnant teenagers.
7. Educate children as to their possible future role as parents, and as to the complexities and responsibilities of that role.
8. Encourage the use of homemaker-home health aides as resources for teaching parenting and home management.
9. Make information about family planning more generally available.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Contact Department of Health and Human Services, Congressional representatives, clergy, doctors, and boards of education.

Issue IV: How can the energy shortage be prevented from pushing more families into paying a disproportionate amount of income for energy?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Develop measures which are outside of the welfare allotment system, such as energy stamps, to insulate low and middle-income families from the full effects of increased energy costs.

Program Recommendations:

1. Provide public monies for this purpose by taxing increasing profits of energy-related companies which are found to be over and above monies actually spent, or planned to be spent, on developing increased sources of oil and/or alternative energy sources. The accountability of the companies for the use of such tax-exempt monies must be carefully monitored.
2. Periodic review of monies already available for energy subsidies to families to make sure they are calibrated to changes in the prices of energy.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Support provisions made to help the poor so far at the federal and state levels.
2. Raise monies at the local and voluntary level to cover the needs of people whose incomes, while modest, do not make them eligible for state and federal subsidies.
3. Vigorously support conservation measures.

TOPIC: FAMILIES AND HOUSING

Issue I: In what ways can low and moderate income families be helped to afford and maintain decent, sanitary housing that is not overcrowded?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Develop a coherent national urban policy which addresses the problem of substandard, overcrowded housing (through HUD) and indirect housing subsidies (through the Internal Revenue Service) for low and moderate income owners and renters.
2. There must be a forum created in which federal expenditures, programs and policies regarding housing, Community Development, and public assistance can be seen together and methods of coordinating them intelligently considered.

Program Recommendations:

1. Rigorously simplify and consolidate all federal housing and housing financial programs.
2. Emphasize programs which:
   a. Directly encourage rehabilitation and weatherization of existing housing units by individuals and community-based groups.
   b. Minimize displacement of low and moderate income persons through rehabilitation, commercialization, gentrification, condominium conversion, and provide for relocation or opportunities for ownership when this occurs.

c. Continue and expand the provision of low interest rates for mortgages for low and moderate income families through tax exempt mortgage bonds.

d. Development of programs which would provide the tools necessary to increase the housing stock for low and moderate income families; i.e., reinstitution of programs similar to 221D3 through which low interest mortgages were available for non-profit corporations, and programs which provided capital for rehabilitation through non-interest bearing revolving loan funds on a non-escrow basis.

e. Develop an entitlement program guaranteeing assistance to all very low income persons (income below 50% of median, this would include welfare recipients) based on the Section 8 existing rental housing program, which should be expanded to include home ownership. Section 8 fair rent schedule should be competitive to the cost of decent, sanitary rentals in the private market and should be adjusted to regional rents.

f. HUD guidelines for Section 8 subsidies and other federal monies should reflect the need in the communities, especially the vacancy rate for rentals and the economic situation.

g. Provide flexible operating subsidies needed to operate and maintain the existing and future federal subsidized housing units for low and moderate income persons.

h. Provide counselling and supportive services for tenants and homeowners to enable them to understand home maintenance.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Legislators on all levels of government should be made aware of the desperate housing crisis of low and moderate income citizens, and of the possible solutions to this crisis.
2. Efforts should be made to increase the number of those lobbying for better housing for the poor by keeping close contact with existing advocates and coalitions and expanding their number through outreach and education.
3. Close contact should be kept with housing policy makers on all levels of government.
4. White House Conference on Family staff should be urged to contact governmental leaders, as well as key officials at the White House, HUD, and HEW to work together towards solutions to this nation-wide problem which affects many families.

Issue II: In what ways can low and moderate income families have freedom of residential choice?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Congress should: -
   - a. amend the Fair Housing Act to permit and require its rigorous enforcement.
   - b. issue regulations in plain language which establish minimum legal standards under the Fair Housing Act.
   - c. require any unit of local government which receives federal financial assistance of any kind to meet these standards or lose all federal financial assistance.

d. it should be the policy of the federal government to discourage zoning and red-lining which discriminates against the provision of critically needed low and moderate income housing.

e. prohibit discrimination in housing based on marital, family, or age status, or the presence of children.

Program Recommendations:

1. The national government working with state and local governments should encourage, and where possible, require multi-state or sub-state regional councils to develop regional standards on land supply and land use regulations and make findings of local compliance or non-compliance with such standards.
2. State and federal governments should make available to local governments existing research and funds for studies which provide a flow of information and technology relating to minimum standards for land use controls.
3. Federal agencies should avoid promulgation of uniform national standards and should consider local and regional characteristics when preparing environmental and other regulations. They should consider the placement of subsidized housing in the light of the availability of community amenities. National standards which may need revision are:
   a. HUD minimum property standards
   b. HUD energy conservation standards
   c. Environmental Protection Agency flood plain legislation
   d. Environmental Protection Agency
   e. Section 208 Water Quality Requirements

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Work with legislators on local, state, and federal levels to make housing and land availability a priority.
2. Work with House Task Force on Rental Housing; e.g., condominium conversion, rent control, and tax incentives for investment in rental housing.
3. Work with and strengthen the broad coalition of housing supporters which has been credited with HUD's success in winning increases from President Carter over the Office of Management and Budget. This Coalition has been pulled together under the National Council for Low and Moderate Income Housing.

TOPIC: FAMILIES AND THE LEGAL SYSTEM

Issue I: In what ways can the law enforcement system handle its functions so as to support family structures?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Policies for arresting and sentencing offenders should take into account the need to support family structures.
2. The juvenile justice system should not be utilized as a substitute for other social agencies through the device of creating "status offenses."

Program Recommendations:

1. State and local police departments should establish clear guidelines for handling family disputes.
2. Sentencing policies should include consideration of the impact on the offender's family, particularly minor children.
3. "Status offenses" for juveniles should be replaced by services and support systems designed to meet the needs of the children involved.

Issue II: In what ways can the negative effects of institutionalization on family relationships be minimized?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Policies governing correctional and juvenile institutions should place strong emphasis on the maintenance of family relationships.

Program Recommendations:

1. Planning for the location of institutions should include consideration of accessibility to families in order to promote contact and reduce family burdens.
2. Institutional staff should be sensitized to the concerns and needs of families.
3. Counselling and assistance in handling family problems should be available to inmates.
4. Parents of institutionalized children should particularly be encouraged to maintain contact, including the provision of transportation where necessary.
5. Groups such as Parents Anonymous which work with abusing parents should be supported and encouraged.

Issue III: In what ways can the legal system make necessary custody and related determinations so as to strengthen supportive relationships and protect individual rights?

Policy Recommendations:

1. A general policy of non-intervention by the legal system should prevail, allowing the maximum reliance upon the natural support systems between persons and between persons and helping institutions.
2. Decisions affecting family relationships should be made by qualified personnel with adequate training and assistance.
3. The effects of existing and proposed laws and policies on families should be determined.

Program Recommendations:

1. No formal definition of "family" should be adopted. Instead, by implementing or extending existing law, the legal system should avoid discrimination against individuals based on race, religion, national origin, sex, sexual preference, income, handicap or age in making decisions about family relationships.
2. In appropriate situations, the state should provide services to attempt to rebuild relationships prior to final adjudications which affect family structures.

3. The state should look first to the extended family for assistance in providing necessary care for children, disabled individuals or senior citizens and should provide adequate resources to family members to support this policy.
4. Specific training in child development, family relations, and other appropriate areas should be provided and required for judges and other personnel in the legal system who handle cases affecting family relationships.
5. Adequate funding should be provided to the judicial system, social service agencies and legal services programs to enable timely, intelligent decisions to be made with full protection for individual rights.
6. A pilot study of the impact of existing laws and state institutions on the family should be authorized. The study should include the following specific areas: Definition of the "best interests" of family members, effects and enforcement of custody decisions, deinstitutionalization, the role of the extended family, domestic violence.

TOPIC: FAMILIES AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Issue I: The development of a Social Service System that enhances choice and serves to maximize the full potential of the individual and family.

Policy Recommendations:

1. The implementation of a social service system that encourages the self actualization and self esteem of the individual and family life styles.
2. Social Service Payments should reflect a level of spendable income commensurate with the verifiable "cost of living standards" issued by the Federal Government.
3. An effort to provide programs to prevent unneccessary institutionalization through sufficient community-based services and facilities, with attention to informal support services such as the family.
4. Medical subsidies should be made available to all economic strata on an ability to pay basis recognizing the necessity not to further disrupt a family situation.

Program Recommendations:

1. Re-program AFDC, SST, GA, and other social service delivery systems:
   - a. to deliver services on a decentralized basis, utilizing staff that are indigenous to the neighborhoods
   - b. to provide social services in a public and private partnership
   - c. to service welfare and non-welfare clients in the same social service system, fostering integration of the population.
   - d. to develop service integration through resource sharing, co-location of facilities, cooperation in case management and reduction of fragmentation to increase efficiency and reduce costs
2. Using statistics available through the 1980 Census and the Bureau of Labor statistics, the federal government must re-define an equitable "standard of living," that the social service system can deliver through simplified procedures.

3. Cut back on the need for institutionalization by adopting the following measures:
    a. Through a loan, grant or tax exemptive program, the federal government can provide incentives to help families retain dependent members in the home.
    b. Continued and expanded support should be given to state, local, private and community-based programs, like, Strength and Assistance for Independent Living (SAIL), Community-based rehabilitation programs (drug, alcohol, battered women, etc.), enforcement of equal education opportunities, and employment, training, housing for individuals returning to the community from institutions.
4. A National Health Insurance program should be developed, through input of all concerned parties, to subsidize any individual on an ability to pay basis.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Modes of delivery should be changed in the following ways:
    a. A decentralization of federal policy implementation, giving states and localities greater responsibility in social service delivery.
    b. Direct budget allotments of consolidated social service funds, to individual states to be disbursed on a need basis, to applicant towns and localities.
    c. The creation of regional or local social service authorities, combining programs of social service delivery.
    d. An expanded and simplified educational program for recipients concerning AFDC, SSI, GA and other social service programs.
2. The Bureau of Census and Statistics must set a reasonable "standard of living." This grant program must insure the majority of the allotted budget reach the hands of clients.
3. An incentive program to be developed to allow families to retain "at risk" family members in the community, will necessitate an educational program through mass media and an incorporation of existing support programs.
4. Rate scales can be developed to delineate paper premium payments in relation to taxable income, and the program must be indexed unilaterally.

Issue II: How can low-cost day care of good quality be made available to all families of all income levels who need or want supervised care for their children?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government that families have available to them options for child care arrangements.
2. It should be the policy of federal/state/local government to assist the private sector with funds to operate good quality child care programs.
3. It should be the policy of the federal government that programs assisted with federal funds should meet standards established by the federal government but that programs be licensed and monitored by the states.
4. The provision of day care services should be related to need, and its cost adjusted to the family's income and size, regardless of the source of that income: work or welfare.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. A voucher system should be established so that parents may purchase child care services that best suit their individual needs from a variety of options including family-based and center-based care.
2. Cooperative, parent-controlled child care should be encouraged by the provision of assistance grants to non-profit community groups to operate day care centers in publicly-owned buildings such as schools.
3. Tax credits should be expanded to encourage business and industry to provide for child care on or near the work site.
4. Unions should be encouraged to negotiate for child care assistance as a benefit in collective bargaining.
5. Government agencies and office buildings (federal/state/local) should be required to plan for on-site child care facilities in any new or substantially renovated building that is publicly owned or that is leased in its entirety.
6. Government-subsidized housing projects should be required to plan for child care facilities when they are under construction, and to set aside suitable space when it becomes vacant in existing housing projects.

Issue III: Families experiencing stresses from death of spouse, separation/divorce and remarriage are families in transition. The first two must deal with the psychological stresses associated with loss, new identity formation and a new family structure, the single parent family. The single parent family is characterized by task overload for the custodial parent as well as external problems that impinge on the parent such as inadequate finances, part-time jobs and day care/after school care. Remarried families must deal with the complex issues of a new family structure that includes multiple role demands, undefined relationships (parent/child) and continued ties to former families. In what ways can these vulnerable families be supported to promote their positive development?

Policy Recommendations:

1. A commitment to and investment in a comprehensive system of social services to support these families.
2. A commitment to and investment in supportive services to help reduce the external stresses on these families.

Program Recommendations:

A. Social Services

1. Education, counseling and group opportunities should be available and accessible to these families.
2. Mutual help programs for families with shared concerns should be available and accessible. The social support networks that are part of the mutual help programs should be fostered and encouraged.
3. Information, referral and advocacy should be available to these families.

B. Supportive Services (Single parent families)

1. Financial, career and employment counseling should be available for these families.
2. More part-time jobs should be created to help single parents cope with their task overload.

3. A greater number of quality day-care and after-school care programs should be available.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals are urged to write their Congressmen or Senators.
2. Conference follow-up staff should contact key governmental leaders to inform them of Conference findings and to explain the recom-

Issue IV: Health personnel utilization patterns, involving physicians and allied personnel, will need to shift swiftly from traditional to "task-oriented" patterns.

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government policy at all levels should give high priority to those training programs which demonstrate a thrust towards a multidisciplinary team approach in fostering family health.

Program Recommendations:

1. Appropriate amendment of Public Health Service Act and/or other related legislation to provide for high priority and financial aid to multidisciplinary team approaches.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Preliminary fact-finding activities with Health Manpower Resources Administration concerning establishment of multidisciplinary training programs.
2. Follow-up with key Congressional committees and related professional groups.
3. At State level, encouragement of team approach within State agencies and educational institutions offering training in the health and allied professions.

Issue V: Prevention must take a significant place alongside high technology and therapeutic medicine.

Policy Recommendations:

1. Public policy must require that a complete spectrum of services be offered to meet the health and mental health needs of families as units.
2. Policy statements should include education and community resource services along with medical and psychiatric services. Examples are public information and education on parenting, courses on nutrition and diet, fitness and exercise, healing and lifestyle; dissemination of new findings on allergies, environment, disease prevention, and self-care.
3. Governmental policies should be established to assist the development of support groups which help families solve their own problems and develop a sense of competence, so that use of health and mental health resources that takes place is appropriate.

4. Policy should be established to assure that all training programs in the health and allied professions include emphasis on the whole person, including physical, emotional, and spiritual perspectives.
5. Overall health and mental health care policy should be articulated so that strengths and resources of existing social and family units are recognized and used as part of the health promoting and healing process.

Program Recommendations:

1. Existing legislation should be examined and amended to provide that health and mental health services are integrated and provide the spectrum of services identified above.
2. Existing legislation should be examined and amended as necessary to expand program definitions so that holistic approaches are eligible for funding and reimbursement.
3. Health and mental health planning organizations should be explicitly mandated to explore new approaches to holistic health care and to make available information relevant to their inclusion in the range of resources available as community services for families at all income levels and of all cultural backgrounds.
4. Legislative mandates should be modified and expanded so that emphasis on pathology is minimized; the importance of treating diseases when necessary continues to be acknowledged; partnership between clients and practitioners is fostered, with the ultimate programmatic goal expressed being the encouragement of health promotion and the highest possible level of wellness.
5. Incentives should be provided in service delivery and program design which emphasize the attainment and maintenance of wellness as well as treatment of disease.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Establishment by the Department of Health and Human Services of a National Task Force on holistic approaches to health care, including focus on strengths of existing family units and emphasis on the attainment and maintenance of wellness.
2. Inservice training for health practitioners and administrators should be developed through the efforts of the National Task Force to provide information and ways of integrating new approaches to health care into the present health care delivery system. This includes holistic approaches building on family strengths, emphasizing wellness, and integrating health and mental health.
3. Recommendations from the National Task Force should be forwarded to Congressional Committees for study and action.
4. Interim demonstration projects should be funded to establish the viability of concept reflected in Policy Recommendations 1 and 2 above, and should include continuing evaluation mechanisms.
5. Policy should be established to provide third party payment to families for non-medical counseling.

Issue VI: Need for increased provision for government support without undue government interference in health and mental health programs for families.

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government policy at all levels should be realigned to minimize insofar as possible governmental operation of demonstration and other health and mental health projects. The need to require monitoring and evaluation components as a part of funding is recognized.

Program Recommendations:

1. Present federal regulations requiring a multitude of checkpoints must be examined, modified, and streamlined, while the assurance of appropriate accountability is continued.
2. Legislation should be designed to offer incentives to non-governmental organizations operating programs in alliances with government to foster cost-effectiveness and local participation.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Early exploration with Department of HHS of alternative methods for assuring elimination of undue governmental program operation.
2. Work through elected officials to amend such procedures as necessary.
3. Educate voluntary and official agencies and community organizations involved in health and allied programs to assume maximum levels of responsibility consistent with project goals.

Issue VII. The right to client self-determination must be assured, including input into, and control over, the course of treatment; ethnic differences must also be respected in the design and provision of integrated health and mental health services for families.

Policy Recommendations:

1. Governmental policy at all levels must be clearly stated in support of client self-determination.
2. Governmental policy at all levels regarding health and mental health services must validate the importance and relevance of ethnic values in designing programs for family care.

Program Recommendations:

1. Amend federal legislation providing for health and allied professional training to assure appropriate emphases in curricula on clients' rights to self-determination in the prevention and treatment of illness and the promotion of health.
2. Amend federal legislation concerning the training of health and allied professions to provide for the inclusion of ethnic values and healing approaches in health and human services programs offering preventive treatment, and health promotion care for families.
3. Develop programs at the State level to foster advocacy for client self-determination and recognition of ethnic approaches to healing in all health care delivery modes.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Mobilize interest among relevant groups such as legal rights organizations, patient care advocates, ethnic organizations, educational institutions, and governmental agencies concerning needs and methods to assure these rights and recognition of ethnic contributions.

2. Lobby in Department of HHS and at State levels to develop necessary legislative guidelines to assure attainment of goals listed above.

Topic: Families and the Media

Issue: The danger that recommendations on how the media can and should strengthen the American family may be construed as a willingness to accept or encourage control of the media. The Consortium rejects out of hand any constraint on the absolute freedom of any medium of mass communication in our democratic society. These recommendations are offered only if they can be achieved within the broadest possible interpretation of First Amendment guarantees.

Issue I: The marketplace effects much media success or failure. The unwatched television series, the unread columnists, the unheard radio programs soon disappear. Since advertisers, news editors, writers and directors, the creators of entertainment fare, enter the home as invited guests they must always be sensitive to the fact that they are meeting with a family audience including small children.

Policy Recommendation:

Although the government and media maintain a hands-off relationship the WHFC follow-up staff can and should use its offices to persuade the appropriate legislative bodies and regulatory agencies to examine the ways through which the economics of media can work to the benefit of families.

Program Recommendations:

1. In dealing with media content advertisers must be encouraged to provide a sensitive balance between the information or subject matter provided and the juxtaposed advertisments.
2. There is a need for greater endorsement, by advertisers, of cultural programming and less endorsement of crime.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The White House Conference on Families follow-up staff should disseminate the conference recommendations to media and advertising decision-makers.
2. The White House Conference on Families follow-up staff should be encouraged to share and implement report recommendations.
3. Advertisers and the media should be commended for content which strengthens the American family.
4. Tax consideration should be offered to business and industry making efforts to improve the image of the American family through cultural and educational presentations beyond product and profit.

Issue II: The content of entertainment fare, the priority and emphasis given various issues in news columns and broadcasts, and the form and content of advertising are the results of judgements made by people doing their jobs. Because their decisions have such widespread effects on the American family, media employees in decision-making positions should reflect the cultural and ethnic diversity of the families they serve. All too often they do not.

Policy Recommendation:

1. It should be the policy of government--local, state and federal--to encourage top management within various media to staff their organizations with personnel that represent the cultural mirror and ethnic range of the communities they serve.

Program Recommendation:

1. The government through Equal Opportunity should monitor progress and enforcement.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The White House Conference follow-up staff should encourage craft unions to promote the hiring of media staff members representing the widest range of ethnic and cultural groups. Particular attention should be given to such representation in supervisory positions.
2. The White House Conference follow-up staff should enlist the support of media trade associations (i.e. the NAB, the ANPA, or the Film Academy) to encourage the media to employ and promote personnel from across the spectrum of ethnic and cultural groups found within the audiences they serve.

Issue III: The American family needs to better understand the role of the media in our pluralistic society and the power of their impact. By the time a child is sixteen, he/she has devoted 16,000 hours to television. On the other hand, the child has spent only a fraction of time reading, or as little as 3,000 hours in communication with other family members. We are concerned because television, radio, records and films absorb so much family attention that they greatly reduce vital oral communication which the family as a unit needs if each member is to participate as a successful individual and citizen.

We are, as well, concerned that families have insufficient information about film, television, magazine, or newspaper content to formulate appropriate choices and that parent's feel ill-equipped to guide youngsters to become critical or objective regarding their media selections. Both adults and children need opportunities to develop a framework for educated choices. Educating families to become discerning and discriminating could counteract negative effects of media on family. The key word is education.

Policy Recommendations:

1. Federal, state and local governments should endorse efforts to foster educational programs for students by trained professionals in the field of media communications.
2. Federal, state and local governments should encourage efforts to inform families about the impact of both the form and content of media. This could be done through encouraging grants for research.

Program Recommendations:

1. Through the Department of Education, the Federal Government should finance programs to:
   a. train students and professionals in the understanding of media

   b. inform families about the impact of media on family members --particularly children.

2. State and local Departments of Education should finance programs to:
   a. train students and professionals so that they acquire a thorough understanding of the various media and their influence on the family. To this end, State Teacher Certification requirements and in-service continuing education should include understanding media impact.
   b. inform families about the impact that media is having on family members--particularly children.
   c. school systems should attempt to balance the effects of media within their curriculum.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. PTAs and other educatonal groups should marshall their forces to persuade governmental agencies and the media to achieve the program recommendations.
2. Recognizing the sensitivity and responsiveness of media to public opinion, families should be outspoken in expressing their reactions to what is presented by the media and what families desire.

Issue IV: Contemporary American families rest on a foundation of diversity. Such diversity is sorely lacking in the models provided by the mass media both in advertising and in the content of entertainment fare, much of which ridicules strong family relations and provides negative roles for children and other family members.

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of government, acting within the bounds of Constitutional restraint, to encourage the presentations of editorial content and entertainment which contributes to the strength of the American family.
2. It should be the policy of government to take agressive action against those advertisers and advertising which has a deleterious effect on the health of family members and the environment in which they live.

Program Recommendations:

1. The government, through the Federal Communications Commission, should hold broadcast properties, strictly accountable for the specific promises made in obtaining and renewing licenses to operate in the public interest.
2. The government, through the Federal Communications Commission, should hold broadcast properties strictly accountable for responding to public needs as expressed in the ascertainment process.

3. The government, through the Federal Communications Commission, should continue to determine what and how various products should be advertised to safeguard the health of the family--particularly children.

Strategy Recommendation:

1. The White House Conference follow-up staff should contact the appropriate regulatory agencies to make certain they consider the impact of their rule-making decisions on the welfare of the American family.

TOPIC: EDUCATION AND THE FAMILY

Issue I: In what ways can schools respond to the changing needs of the family? Many responsibilities have been thrust upon the schools for economic, political or expedient reasons, yet, there is a growing need to change or to add more dimensions to the educational program in order to better meet the needs of individual students and their families. Equal opportunity for every child to receive a suitable program of educational experiences would support and strengthen families. Educational opportunities must be provided for each citizen regardless of age and level of competence.

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of federal, state and local governments to encourage a broader provision of developmental day care/preschool programs, either through the public schools or by the schools working together with other community services and agencies to ensure a variety of comprehensive preschool experience options for families.
2. It should be the policy of the federal, state, and local governments to encourage before and after school programs in the local elementary schools which would be open to all students in need of an extended day.
3. It should be the policy of the federal, state and local government to encourage wider use of educational facilities so as to serve the needs of families within a community--programs for young children, provision of adult education, involvement with the elderly, and health, social service and recreational programs.
4. It should be the policy of federal, state and local government to create opportunities which would ensure fewer school drop-outs, ensure racial balance, ensure equal educational opportunities for students with limited English proficiency and provide for the talented and gifted students.
5. It should be the policy of federal, state and local government that equal educational opportunities are provided to all students in all school districts.

Program Recommendations:

1. Through the federal and state governments, funds should be made available for providing preschool/day care services to a greater number of families through public school and non-public school avenues.
2. With declining enrollments and the closing of school buildings, state government could encourage local education agencies to open their facilities to day care, senior citizens and community services. The community school concept should be strongly considered by local school districts.
3. Through the Department of Educations, federal and state, schools should be encouraged to provide more stimulating learning environments for students, better assessment of students to help them determine their academic or vocational skills, and encouragement of greater joint efforts between business, industry and education to help students stay in school and later contribute positively to society within a healthier family context.
4. All state governments, where appropriate, should have laws to provide bilingual education at an early age for students who have limited English proficiency.

5. All state governments should adopt regulations to eliminate racial imbalance, thereby providing more equal opportunities for quality educational programs.
6. Federal and state governments should mandate programs and provide funds for the development of programs to meet the needs of gifted and talented students.
7. The federal and state governments should encourage more equal educational opportunities by encouraging the writing of an individual eduction program (I.E.P.) for every child, not just for the child with special needs.
8. State government should change the law which allocates state education funds to local town funds. The law should be revised to allocate education monies to a local education fund.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Parent advocacy groups should write legislators and contact schools to encourage a greater commitment to developmental preschool/day care services.
2. Senior citizens should be engaged by local schools to relate to and work with students and their families.
3. Parent organizations should encourage the use of schools by contacting neighborhood families for support of wider use of buildings for a greater diversity of the population.
4. The White House Conference staff should make available to each state recommendations on which local schools can offer assistance such as:
   a. Build on communication and planning with Business and Industry for developing a partnership in education.
   b. Through the media, encourage parent advocacy groups to organize for supporting such programs as bilingual education, quality education for every child, recognition that a child is part of a family and that the school serves the family and not just the individual student.
5. The state governments or individuals should start a legislative process to change the law so that education monies can go directly to local education funds.

Issue II: In what ways can schools and families work together to eliminate the dehumanizing aspects of education? In the past students learned much from associations in their families and from cooperative village/neighborhood structures. Today students frequently live in considerable isolation from the active daily functioning of their communities and in family situations which are, for the most part, much less clearly defined. Individual competition, more than cooperation, governs their education experience. Burgeoning structural and administrative demands so common among today's schools, greatly expanded enrollments and deteriorating community orientation all tend to enlarge the degree of separation between home and school, and to perpetuate the isolation and competition in which students are compelled to pursue their education and gain their recognition. This highly depersonalized situation tends to dehumanize the educational experience of today's students and adversely affects student-family-school relationships.

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to develop programs which promote and reward smaller public school systems/schools.

2. It should be the policy of the federal governments to actively support the development of programs to better integrate public schools into the day-to-day life of family and community.
3. It should be the policy of the federal government to support the efforts necessary to help teachers recognize and incorporate into public school classrooms the values and resources of family and community.
4. It should be the policy of the federal government to support the development of textbooks which more adequately recognize and respect the resources of family and community.
5. It should be the policy of the federal government to support those educational programs which recognize the values and resources of the family and community.
6. It should be the policy of the federal government to support and help instill the diversity of family and community values into the public schools.
7. It should be the policy of the federal government, as it is involved in public education, to become more competent in recognizing and strengthening programs which develop each student's sense of human identity and self-worth within the family and community.
8. It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage and support practices and programs which provide opportunities for families and students to participate in the decision making processes related to school practices, educational goals and course selections.

Program Recommendations:

1. Small schools, especially those in rural environments, have managed to maintain a "community-oriented" outlook. Yet, increasingly these same schools are being made unfeasible by the economics of large-scale institutionalization fostered in part by the requirements of government. Government programs should be adjusted to ensure that public schools are given grants and financial assistance on the basis of criteria other than size and efficiency of the physical plant.
2. Many schools today stand outside the mainstream of community life. Government programs should support projects which bring the community into the schools and the schools into the community.
3. Teachers generally are not prepared by their training institutions to relate classroom instruction to each student's family and community life. Teacher training institutions should be given government incentives to do the necessary research and development for materials to train teachers how to deal with the diversity and complexity of ideas and opinions, perceptions and experiences of family and community.
4. Textbooks, especially in the area of social studies, pay scant attention to the life of the family and the community. This is largely because mass marketing precludes textbooks which give more than a generalized, nationwide view. The government should support the development of textbooks and other curricular materials which teach students about the diversity of ideas, opinions, perceptions and experiences of family and local community life while simultaneously relating to the larger human community.

8. The Department of Education should develop at the local or regional level the concept of an "Education Ombudsman" who will mediate between parents and schools to help solve interpersonal problems and enhance home/school communications. Through more effective use of and support for community groups such as PTO's, the Department of Education should find ways to facilitate better communication between schools and constituent families relative to the goals, course offerings, programs, and facilities of each school.

Issue III: In what ways can educational systems support family participation and parenting education within the schools?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to mandate the inclusion of parents on all planning committees where federal funds are utilized (e.g., ESEA Title I and PL 94-142).
2. It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage state and local boards of education to recognize the needs of diverse kinds of families.
3. It should be the policy of the federal and state governments to see that positive courses on parenting are mandated by state and local boards of education.

Program Recommendations:

1. Amend federal legislation so that the Department of Education, through their incentive and program assistance grants, mandates the inclusion of parents on a broad scale in planning activities.
2. Local schools should receive incentive grants for remaining open on a more flexible time basis to accomodate the needs of families.
3. School personnel need to be sensitized to different family mores, legal responsibilities and life styles.
4. Since some communities have a large segment of their student population living in homes with single or remarried parents, efforts through federal government leadership must demonstrate ways of showing support and understanding of such families.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Establish program teams in each local school to include a more equal number of parents and school personnel.
2. Successful models such as Title I advisory committees and the inclusion of parents on planning and placement teams for special education should be encouraged through federal and state departments of education.
3. Extended day programs should be encouraged and funded as one way to meet the practical needs of families.
4. Local education personnel should be exposed, through workshops and training programs, to a better understanding of family strengths and needs.
5. Innovative programs such as Greenwich, Connecticut's Parent Assistor Program should be replicated in other towns and states to ensure help to parents who need extra assistance.
6. Special family situations exist today which highlight the need for specialized courses, training and research to help families through critical times.
7. Pupil personnel staff such as school social workers should be assigned to assist particular "at risk" student/family populations as well as to assist teachers in offering help.

5. The federal government should support and encourage development of new programs to utilize valuable resources--personal, organizational and institutional--which can be incorporated in programs of study or to which students can be given access so as to increase their awareness of the assets of the larger community in which they live and learn.
6. Government grant programs in education should be developed for the exploration of pilot programs for the teaching of diversity of ideas, opinions, perceptions and experiences of family and community life which relate to the larger human community.
7. Training programs should be developed to assist teachers in their ability to help individual students achieve a sense of self-worth and pride in their cultural and ethnic identification.
8. The federal government should give encouragement to and support programs for school administrators and teachers which are designed to develop more effective methods for incorporating both students and parents into committees and planning structures which effect goal setting within schools and which enable families to participate more effectively in selecting appropriate courses for study and individual educational goals.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Federal record keeping and other requirements which impinge seriously on the operation of small schools should be modified so as to have the least possible negative impact.
2. Through various grants programs, the Department of Education should encourage the use of effective communications at the local school level through funding for demographic research, communications program planning, and implementation through various communications devices such as newsletters, community councils, public access cable TV and the like.
3. A national advertising/public relations campaign should be mounted in which parents are urged to become more involved in family-school relationships, and to enhance personal understandings and relationships with school staff.
4. Grants programs should be made available by the Education Department to develop and explore the oral tradition which exists in communities and families and other appropriate resource materials so that students may be made more aware of their own histories and traditions.
5. Encouragement should be given statewide to develop learning opportunities for students in museums, historical societies, galleries and other appropriate industrial and community enterprises which can offer enlightening experiences and information.
6. The Department of Education should develop family/school workshops to create, at the local level, appropriate learning situations and materials for individual schools.
7. The Department of Education should encourage development of materials and courses designed to provide teachers with an understanding of how to encourage feelings of positive self-awareness in individual students based on their individual racial, ethnic, religious and cultural situations and heritage.

DELAWARE

Topic: I FAMILY FINANCE

Issue: A How can Inflation be reduced to promote financial security for the American family.

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to maintain or reduce the present high cost of living.
2. It should be the policy of the federal government to establish a reasonable, livable minimum income standard for all families that include fuel and food expenses.

Program Recommendations:

1. Remove price controls, to allow the free market to find its place in the market place.
2. Introduce a guaranteed annual income that will relate to a reasonable standard of living financed by a negative income tax.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Legislate negative income tax - to give guaranteed annual income.
2. Establish legislation to eliminate public assistance grants.
3. A certain percentage of profits can be used to create new jobs. IE: By tax credit or some other method.
4. Establish a special tax package on profits of oil or gas companies tax.
5. Establishment of a private advocacy group for families to deal with family concerns. Funding would be drawn from family donations. Limit donations to avoid special interest.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
I	A	POLICY

3. It should be a policy of the federal government to increase employment in the private job market.
4. It should be the policy of the federal government to remove allocations of fuel distribution and use profits on taxes to support exploration and use of alternative energy sources.

PROGRAM

3. A percentage of profits should be used to create new jobs. Taxation on energy profits to subsidize new exploration of alternative sources of energy.

Topic: I FAMILY FINANCE

Issue: B What needs to be done to the tax structure to enhance the quality of family life?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to create a tax structure that relates to the enhancement of family life.
2. It should be the policy of the federal government that tax programs relate to special family situation IE, adult and child care, and displaced spouse.

Program Recommendations:

1. Tax credit for a person in a family unit staying at home providing child and/or adult care and other home services.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Legislate a tax credit for persons in a family unit staying at home providing child and/or adult care and other home services.

2. As stated in Inflation Issue.
   Negative income tax.
   Guaranteed annual income

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
I	B	POLICY

3. It should be the policy of the government that taxation will benefit all in regards to a guaranteed annual income.
4. Social Security tax payments should be put in a special account for disability and social security.

Topic: I Family Finance

Issue: C In what ways can the credit structure be revised to contribute to reducing inflation?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of us all to become less dependent on credit.
2. It should be the policy of the federal government to limit the individual and industry borrowing power.
3. Strict limits on borrowing by large businesses and subsidiary holdings

Program Recommendations:

1. Limit personal credit that can be extended to any person.
2. Tighter control on use of credit cards.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Regulate the acquisition and use of personal credit.
2. Legislate controls on use of credit cards.
3. Legislate size and subsidiary of large business, encourage growth of smaller business.

Topic: 2 Families and the work place

Issue: A What can be done to increase the earnings of families?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The state minimum wage should be increased, the coverage extended to include all employees, and an overtime provision added.
2. Affirmative action programs in the public and private sectors need immediate attention and rigorous enforcement.

Program Recommendations:

1. Amend 19 Del. C. S902(a) (b) to increase the State minimun wage to $3.10 for all employees and to add a provision requiring the payment of time and one-half for overtime. Delete S901(5) which specifies emptions from the Minimum Wage Act.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals are urged to write or call their Representative and Senators in the Delaware Legislature.
2. State and federal legislators should be urged to amend existing discrimination laws to include mandatory affirmative action plans which would require employers to seek out qualified women and minorities fo deirable jobs.
3. Conference follow-up staff should contact school officials to inform them of conference recommendations.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
2	A	POLICY

3. Areas of employment growth and need should be identified and training programs implemented to meet those needs, especially in non-traditional roles for women and minorities.
4. A policy of equal pay for work of comparable value should be added to existing state and federal discrimination laws.
5. More flexible approaches to work schedules to allow for flex-time, job-sharing and part-time employment should be encouraged in the public and private sectors.

PROGRAM

2. Amend 19 Del. C. Ch. 7 to require affirmative action programs in the private and public sectors of employment. Amend Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include a remedy for violations of Executive Order 11246.
3. Mandate the availability of vocational training and exposure to non-traditional roles for minorities and women by the school systems. Projection of areas of employment growth and need already identified by the Department of Labor should be utilized by schools in program planning.
4. Amend Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and 19 Del. C Ch. 7 to include an equal pay for work of comparable value provision.
5. Amend existing state laws and encourage private sector employers to allow flex-time, job-sharing and more part-time employment.
6. Qualification to be included under the Merit System should include experience in CETA, job training, volunteer and other work experiences.

STRATEGY

4. Individuals should write their state and federal legislators to amend the existing discrimination laws to include an equal pay for jobs of comparable worth provision. Encourage the re-evaluation of jobs which have traditionally been held by women.

Topic: Families and the Workplace

Issue: B - In what ways can the unemployment problem be alleviated so as to promote financial security in families?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the state and federal government to:

1. Counsel and retrain displaced older workers.
2. Stimulate job growth by increasing flex-time, job-sharing and part-time employment.
3. Provide career education and counseling throughout the academic program (kindergarten-12th grade) for all children enrolled in public schools.

Program Recommendations:

1. Comprehensive Employment and Training Act funds (CETA) should be increased to continue counseling and retraining of displaced older workers.
2. The federal government should amend Section 12 of Title XX of the U. S. Code to provide for flex-time and job-sharing for its full or part-time employees. State employment policies should encourage similar measures.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals should be urged to write their congressmen to vote for continuation and funding increases in CETA.
2. Concerned individuals should be urged to write their congressmen and senators to change Title XX to allow flex-time. State citizens should contact their legislators to stress the adoption of flex-time, job-sharing and part-time employment for all year (now used in State Personnel Office in Dover).
3. Concerned individuals should be urged to write their state and federal legislators to enact legislation to raise tax incentives for private industry. (Example: Chrysler Corporation Division of Economic Development.)

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
2	B	POLICY

4. Develop more job sites and employment opportunities.
5. Promote state industry, natural resources and redevelopment projects.

PROGRAM

3. Tax incentives, subsidies (WIN, CETA, TARGETED JOBS) and government-sponsored low-interest mortgage programs for industrial commercial development should be promoted to encourage new industry to locate in Delaware.
4. The Vocational Educational Act should be amended to increase funds for the expansion of and the development and implementation of Career Education modules for use in kindergarten-12 programs.
5. CETA and Department of the Interior funds, as well as State Division of Economic Development funds, should be increased and directed towards massive development of our natural resources (parks, Wilmington waterfront, seashore, wildlife preserves) to attract tourists and new industries to Delaware.

STRATEGY

4. Concerned individuals should be urged to write their state and federal legislators to enact legislation for the development expansion and implementation of kindergarten - 12th grade Career Education modules. State colleges and universities should be encouraged to participate in career education curriculum development through funding processes initiated by the Federal and State Government Departments of Education.
5. Concerned citizens should be urged to write their state and federal legislators to increase funding for CETA and the Department of Interior for these purposes, as well as the State Division of Economic Development.

Topic: 2 Families and the Workplace

Issue: C In what ways can the community help parents balance demands of jobs with costs and arrangements for care of children.

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal and state government to grant an increased tax credit for work-related child-care expenses.
2. Community service organizations should be encouraged to maintain non-profit referral services to provide information on available child care, health and recreation services.

Program Recommendations:

1. State and federal income tax laws should be amended to more accurately reflect the costs of child care and assist those who must pay them.
2. Community service agencies should be encouraged to submit funding proposals to public and private agencies for the establishment and maintenance of such a service.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned citizens should write to the legislators about the need for realistic tax credits and the true cost of child care.
2. Persons who have trouble locating children's services should make employers, community organizations to which they belong, state legislators and media representatives aware of their need for help in finding appropriate services.
3. Parents should make school boards aware of their desire for their children to have courses in child development, parenting skills and family life.
4. All persons involved with child care in the state must let legislators know of the problems in obtaining quality care and those changes which they feel need to be made.
5. Union members need to let their leaders know that they see child care, flex-time and sick leave or care of sick children as benefits which they desire.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
2	C	POLICY

3. The business community should encourage contributions of management skills and support systems from private firms and institutions for effective child care programs.
4. The community should promote increased awareness of skills involved in parenting and child care through both private and public auspices.
5. The state should guarantee availability of quality child care through updating and strictly enforcing state licensing laws for all programs.
6. Labor and industry should be encouraged to include child care assistance as part of the comprehensive benefit package offered to employees.
7. The Federal government should support parents in their need for child care.

PROGRAM

3. State and County Chambers of Commerce should develop programs to bring together business leaders and representative members of child care agencies in efforts to develop mutual support systems.
4. Educational institutions at post elementary levels should establish programs to teach child development and parenting to all young people. Additional training for child care workers sponsored through Federal programs must be immediately implemented.
5. State legislators should update Title 31, Part 1, Chapter 3, Subchapter III, Delaware Code - Licensing of Child CAre Agencies and Boarding Homes. They should also provide staff and remedies sufficient to allow strict enforcement of that Code.
6. Unions should make programs to support the quality of family life a bargaining point in contract negotiations.
7. Federal legislators should support a Comprehensive Child Care Bill to aid working parents who cannot completely afford the necessary child care, and to increase the availability of quality care.

STRATEGY

6. Parents and child care professionals must all let the Federal Government know of their needs and desires in relation to quality affordable child care legislation.

Topic: 3 Health Task Force

Issue: A How can families who do not have government medical insurance (Medicaid/Medicare) meet the high cost of medical care (both mental & physical) as an out-patient and when hospitalized?

Policy Recommendations:

1. All hospitals should offer free or low cost out-patient clinics that provide service to family members within a reasonable length of time and offer quality care.

Program Recommendations:

1. Any hospital built with or receiving government funds (such as Hill-Burton) should provide free or low cost out-patient clinics. In addition, free hospital services should be provided to those patients unable to pay.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. A citizens lobby should be formed to: monitor federal, state and local health related legislation to insure that low cost health care is provided; disseminate information on health related legislation; urge individuals to take action by making their desire for low cost health care known to their legislators; assume a patient advocacy role.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
3	A	POLICY

2. Public health clinics should be extended to include both preventive health services and primary treatment to family members in need of these services.

3. A national health insurance concept should be initiated and a definitive program implemented within the next two years.

PROGRAM

2. HEW, state and local funding provided to communities must render uniform preventive and treatment services throughout the state.

3. The national health insurance program should provide preventive health measures (such as; screening tests, health education and counseling); coverage for home care by nurse practitioners; and protection for catastrophic illness. This coverage should provide equal and optimal health care to all citizens.

STRATEGY

2. Citizens who feel there is a need in their communities are urged to: establish a coalition; seek, coordinate and make available health care resources; and apply for appropriate public health funding (such as HEW).

3. Political candidates in 1980 on the local, state and federal level should identify their position on the issue of national health insurance and concerned citizens are urged to contact candidates to insure that the candidates views on the concept of national health insurance become a part of his or her political platform.

Topic: 3 Health Task Force

Issue: B How can adequate support services best be made available on a continuing basis to families traumatized by health problems (both mental and physical)?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The intrinsic rights of families to manage their internal affairs should be acknowledged while recognizing that extraordinary health problems may require the family to reach out for support services in the community.
2. A system of comprehensive coordinated continuous support services should be available throughout the state.

Program Recommendations:

1. Federal, state and local and private funding should be made available for peer group, individual and family counseling; parent effectiveness and other specialized support services as needed.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Private citizens and special-interest groups should contact local, state and federal legislators urging passage of appropriate legislation.
2. Citizen involvement in advisory councils and committees is urged, especially as it relates to the implementation of 93-641 and PL 94-317. In addition, citizen participation is urged to insure the provision of mandated services by the Office of Health Information, Division of Public Health, Department of Health and Social Services.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
3	B	POLICY

3. Individual family members should have information on, and be sensitized to consumer rights issues focused on availability of information on diagnosis and treatment recommendations of health problems; options available; and qualifications of service providers.

PROGRAM

2. Federal, state and local and private funding should be made available for support services such as home, residential and respite care, crisis services, follow-up and centralized resource referral; home health aide and attendant care; transportation services; independent living services and and appropriate education.

3. Implementation of Health Education Goal cited in Health Plan for Delaware. 1980-85, "Every Delawarean will have access to physical and mental health education, which will make current knowledge available in a usable form."

Topic: 3 **Health Task Force**

Issue: C In what ways can quality health care (both mental and physical) be made available to all families in the state of Delaware?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Quality primary and preventive health care should be available to families regardless of geographic location.

Program Recommendations:

1. Quality primary and preventive health care can best be made available through the expanded use of community health centers making greater use of interdisciplinary health care teams, i.e. nurse practitioners and physician assistants; a system of transportation; and community education on awareness and availability of health care services.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. A greater involvement on the part of the family and local community members in defining and obtaining funding to meet the needs of their area. This should be done with the cooperation of the Department of Health and Social Services, the private sector and community organizations for the recruitment of National Health Service personnel.

2. The Mental Health Association should establish a coalition of concerned citizens and service providers to re-evaluate the present mental health system, formulate and implement defined strategies to meet current needs within the next two years. This re-evaluation should be carried out in accordance with the Mental Health Goal #1-9 as cited in the Health Plan for Delaware 1980-1985.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
3	C	POLICY

2. An organized comprehensive system of mental health programs should be developed and implemented throughout the state to correct the current gaps and fragmentation of services.

3. The innovative use of health care personnel and programs including alternatives to traditional modes of health care delivery is essential to meet the special needs of various segments of the population.

PROGRAM

2. Programs should be established to include the following: services to adolescents; family counseling; in-patient care; day-care facilities; crisis intervention; early identification and preventive services.

3. Programs should be developed to meet the special needs of adolescents, migrant populations, Hispanics, the elderly and others. The use of interdisciplinary health care teams and alternatives to traditional modes of health care delivery should be utilized to offset the gaps in traditional health care programs. Outreach is seen as an essential part of any program.

STRATEGY

3. Funding should be made available through local, state and federal sources to allow expansion within existing programs and formulation of new programs. Funding proposals must include an objective evaluation component and be time-limited.

OTHER ISSUES:

1. Can the Division of Consumer Affairs extend its focus to include medical consumerism, patient advocacy, billing for deceased family members and harrassment of indigents over non-payment?
2. In what ways can poor and minority groups that have a disproportionately higher rate of cancer death (2nd leading cause of death) be insured the receipt of the optimum cancer treatment available at the present time?
3. In what ways can the focus of entry into the health care system be changed from being illness-oriented to be health-oriented?
4. In what ways can inhibition and restriction on third party payments be lessened so that a wider range of health care providers are covered?

The following suggestions are ideas that may help in making lower cost health care available to families, but were not covered within the topic outline.

1. In the proposed budget for 1981 146.2 billion dollars is being requested for national defense and 62.4 billion dollars for health. Health should become more of a national priority in the eyes of the government.
2. At present 80% health funding is spent on medicare and medicaid, that is grossly disproportionate to the amount of American families whose health care is not covered by these services. It also does little to finance initiatives in prevention, mental health, non-institutional care, safety, environmental health and other areas of health that affect the quality of life for all families.
3. Support should be given for education of all types of health workers (such as National Health Service Corps) and they must be placed in medically under-served areas.
4. Emphasis should be placed on teaching Americans to care for themselves and their families so that they can avoid unnecessary and expensive health care.
5. Emergency room services should be reduced to actual costs. In many cases the cost of routine wound cleaning, bandaids, sutures and splints appear to be unrealistic and suggest ~~those who~~ pay are paying for those who cannot or do not pay.

6. Families should be treated as a unit for a particular illness and charged accordingly and not for each individual family member. (For instance a doctor's visit for an entire family with the flu or a mother with two children running a fever). Usually the time taken is little more than for one individual visit.

7. Follow-up visits for a previously diagnosed illness should be billed at a reduced rate, particularly when they require very little of the physician's time.

8. Surviving family members should not be held responsible for the un-paid hospital bills of deceased family members.

9. Private physicians should take an active role in cutting cost of their fees by reducing their profit margin and providing a proportion of free service to patients in financial need.

10. It should be considered medically unethical for any physician or hospital to deny a patient service because of his or her inability to pay.

11. Physicians must be made to post and freely provide information that lists their fees for routine treatment. Competitive pricing of these services and public information that acknowledges this pricing should not be discouraged.

12. Every employer should be required to provide anyone he employs, even those who are domestic, part-time or seasonal with insurance for comprehensive health care. This insurance should include dental, mental health and preventive health care services for the employee and his dependents and may be prorated coverage for those in part-time or temporary jobs.

13. Physicians must take an active part in eliminating unnecessary and costly medication prescriptions. They should also explore and counsel their patients toward less use of over-the-counter drugs.

14. Families should educate themselves using every means available to understand what medications they currently use and explore ways to eliminate or reduce those that may not be necessary.

15. Whenever possible generic drugs should be prescribed and purchased.

TOPIC:4: The Family and Education

ISSUE: In what ways can we improve the quality of education so as to insure opportunity for each student to reach his potential?

STATE: Delaware

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

It shall be the policy of the teacher-training institutions to up grade their curricula by changing their emphasis from research to instruction. This shall be accomplished by federal and state mandates.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. A nine-week period of classroom observation in at least two situations shall be required of all students preparing to teach.
2. Substitutions for practive teaching and/or laboratory experience shall not be allowed.
3. At least three courses in methodologies for teaching reading shall be required for all elementary preservice teachers.
4. At least one course in methodogies for teaching reading shall be required for all secondary preservice teachers.
5. At least one course in the teaching of reading across content areas shall be required for all preservice teachers.
6. At least one course in methodologies for teaching each subject area and/or discipline.
7. Specific training in the teaching of writing skills for all preservice teachers in the following:
    a. manuscript writing
    b. cursive writing
    c. sentence writing
    d. paragraph writing
    e. essay writing
        (1) descriptive
        (2) narrative
        (3) persuasive
        (4) expository

Topic: 4 - The Family and Education

Issue: A - B Public School Quality - (Environment, Discipline and Local Fiscal Control)
In what ways can the opportunity for student growth be realized and enhanced from a sound educational program?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Encourage more discretionary use of federal funds for educational concerns.
2. Maintain public school enrollment and preserve the diversity of student populations in attendance.
3. Maintain discipline in the classroom. Provide structure for alternative programming for non-conforming students.

Program Recommendations:

1. Request that federal monies flow with less "strings attached" for discretionary use by the state and local districts. (See Policy #1)
    a. Target more federal monies and inservice activities, and teacher training. to encourage involvement in the affective domain (will serve to enhance the school environment, especially in the area of discipline).

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The Conference follow-up staff should communicate the above concerns to the Delaware U. S. Congressional delegation.
2. The National White House Conference for Families Steering Committee should communicate these concerns to the Senate and House Education Committees.
3. The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) in the state will select a person to represent Delaware in Washington through his-her contacts with USOE officials and/or an existing state employee will be made responsible for monitoring the USOE budgeting process.
4. Provide discretionary federal monies that flow to the state to the LEA'S for use in affective training sessions involving administrators, teachers, parents, and students. These activities are undertaken with support and input from DPI.
5. The above strategies are to begin by the next fiscal year's budgeting cycle.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
4	A - B	Policy

4. Encourage expansion of, and funding for, services under PL 94-142.

Program

b. Utilize human relation specialists home/school advisors, and aides in the development of affective training for all students, staff and parents (will serve to enhance the school environment, especially in the area of discipline).

2. Encourage tuition tax credits be limited to postsecondary education opportunities. (See Policy #2.)
3. Target more federal monies for alternative programming, including "time-out rooms". (See Policy #3.)
4. Encourage reduction of age for services for handicapped children and target more federal monies to meet requirements of PL 94-142. (See Policy #4.)

Topic: 4 The Family and Education

Issue: C High Cost of Post-Secondary Education

Policy Recommendations:

1. Encourage tuition tax credit legislation for parents and/or guardians of students who attend post-secondary education institutions.
2. Encourage continuation of low interest student loan programs.

Program Recommendations:

1. Support tax proposals that would provide tuition tax credits for post-secondary education.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The Conference follow up staff should communicate the above concerns to the Delaware U.S. Congressional delegation.
2. The National White House Conference for Families Steering communicate these concerns to the Senate and House Education Committees.
3. The above strategies are to begin by the next fiscal year's budgeting cycle.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
4	C	POLICY

3. Increase business and industry support for broader post-secondary education opportunities for employees.

PROGRAM

2. Support the present guaranteed student loan program which provides monies for post-secondary education at low interest rates, and encourage the development of more efficient pay-back system through existing commercial loan institutions.
3. Increase tax incentives for business and industry to provide opportunities for post-secondary education for employees.

Topic: 5 HIGH COST OF HOUSING

Issue: 1 How can governmental regulations at all levels for new construction encourage cost savings, energy efficiency, land use and make adequate housing available for citizens at reasonable cost?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the government at all levels to review and change any regulations so that they will encourage cost savings, energy efficiency and aesthetic and efficient land use.

Program Recommendations:

1. The Federal Government should review and amend their regulations to cut paperwork and lead time which cause increased cost of housing.
2. We ask that the Federal Government exercise restraint in its monetary policy which uses the housing industry as a pawn to beat inflation.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. A group of informed citizens should be formed which would include architects, builders, engineers, and housing consumer advocates to recommend and lobby for these specific changes in regulations at all levels of government.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
5	1	PROGRAM

3. The Federal Government should review and amend FHA Minimum Property Specifications (MPS) to reflect the new technology available in materials and construction so as to diminish restraints that raise the cost of housing beyond the ability of the housing consumer to pay and to heed restrictions in land use which raise the cost of already scarce land.
4. The State of Delaware should create a workable housing code with particular attention to land use, high technology and minimum of paperwork, and particularly enforce these rules as regards to migrant housing.
5. The local government should review and amend housing and zoning codes to reflect the new technology available in materials and construction in order to diminish the restraints that raise the cost of housing beyond the ability of the housing consumer to pay, and to heed restrictions in land use which raise the cost of already scarce land.

Topic: 5 LACK OF HOUSING

Issue: 2 How can the public and the housing developer be educated and encouraged to consider alternative concepts in housing other than single family detached units?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government policy should encourage innovative planning for housing developers (e. g., "planned unit developers") to create alternate concepts in housing.

Program Recommendations:

1. Governments should increase seed money and technical assistance to non-profit housing corporations and developers to stimulate innovation in housing design and to encourage alternate concepts in housing.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals, business and government leaders should work cooperatively with government bodies and private industry to encourage and promote alternate concepts in housing.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
5	2	PROGRAM

2. Government tax policy and user fee should be used as special-incentives for innovation in housing and site design as alternatives to single family detached units.
3. Also, the government should waive restrictions in particularly innovative devlopments and where a certain percentage of units are set aside for low and moderate income housing.

Topic: 5 DETERIORATION OF HOUSING

Issue: 3 In what ways can the Federal Government ensure that subsidized home owners and tenants are given the skills and resources neede to maintain their property?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the Federal Government that housing subsidies will include provisions for counseling and home maintenance training.

Program Recommendations:

1. Permit and fund adequately all community development and housing programs to provide and make mandatory counseling and home maintenance training for all recipients.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned citizens should be urged to write their legislators. A consortium should also be formed of key housing providers and consumers to provide this concept.

Topic: 5 DETERIORATION OF HOUSING

Issue: 3 How can private homeowners and absentee landlords be forced to maintain their housing in a safe and sanitary condition?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Local governments should use a system of incentives and penalties which will encourage private homeowners and absentee landlords to maintain their properties to the local housing codes.

Program Recommendations:

1. Strengthen code enforcement and provide funding to be more diligent in code enforcement.
   a. Local communities should ensure that housing codes for existing housing and the enforcement staff are adequate to maintain safe and sanitary conditions in housing and neighborhoods.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Local citizens should get involved in their local neighborhoods, community government bodies and civic organizations to give input and support for adoption of above programs.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
5	3	PROGRAM

b. Local communities should create a finance mechanism to assist absentee landlords and homeowners not qualifying for in-place subsidy programs (Example: those who do not qualify because they are outside the boundaries of FHA Programs) with funds necessary to meet the housing codes in the community.

c. Local communities should have an outreach program to attract reliable, dependable, and competent general contractors to home improvement work under these programs and to streamline the monitoring program to protect homeowners and contractors.

TOPIC 6 TRANSPORTATION

a. Cost too high
b. Need for more public transportation
c. Cost of gasoline

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Neither the New Castle nor the Kent-Sussex task force has addressed Issues A & C directly. The cost of gasoline is not amenable to change-on-request. (Reasonable people have argued that it should not be.) The concern that the cost of transportation is too high is a pursuasive element in the case for emergency-level focus on public transportation.

The mass transportation system in the United States has been allowed to decay, leaving us peculiarly vulnerable, among industrialized nations, to the severely inflationary price of fuel. The cost of moving raw materials and goods without a viable rail system has made a massive contribution toward driving the cost of food and other essential consumer items beyond the means of many. Beyond this, we are faced with the economic and social consequences of a population that is increasingly immobilized by the lack of public transportation combined with the prohibitive costs of car ownership and operation. It is our firm conviction that no item on the national agenda deserves more urgent consideration than the reconstruction of our mass transportation system, with special attention to public transportation in rural areas....an issue which has never been adequately addressed.

Topic: 6 TRANSPORTATION

Issue: B NEED FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Policy Recommendations:

1. It shall be the policy of federal, state, and local government that public transportation should be available to the total population, rather than limited to specific categories and/or to populous areas.
2. Cities should encourage use of public transportation through a policy of limited access to metro-centers during restricted hours.

Program Recommendations:

1. Portions of the proceeds from the windfall profits tax should be placed in a special fund for the development of public transportation in rural areas.
2. City governments should furnish parking facilities outside metro-centers.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Sizable emphasis should be given this issue at the State Conference since adequate transportation facilities affect almost every other expressed concern.
2. Legislators and candidates for election should be informed of the content of this task force report, in post-Regional briefings.
3. All Delaware candidates for election to state office should be asked to state their position on these issues in a pre-election questionnaire. This should include gubernatorial candidates.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
6	B	POLICY

3. Federal and state government shall commit themselves to support farm families with an adequate transportation network for moving products and people. At a minimum, this would mandate maintaining traversible roads.

PROGRAM

3. To speed revival of rail systems, Congress should examine the feasability of nationalizing road beds. (Most right-of-ways were federally granted.)
4. A task force should be established in Delaware to identify and assess existing transit resources, unmet needs, and untapped sources of funding such as the Rural Highway Public Transportation Demonstration Program. This study should include government programs providing transportation to specific groups of citizens, and make recommendations for coordination of effort and facilities.
5. On the basis of task force reports, Delaware shall develop plans for transit systems for rural Delaware and implement demonstration projects at an early date. Increased use of railroads should be considered.
6. Existing programs transporting agricultural and poultry workers to their jobs should be continued and the initiation of similar programs encouraged, possibly by tax incentives.
7. Local governments, using state and federal matching funds, should supply acceptable mass transit vehicles and provide for the operation, maintenance, and safety of such vehicles.

STRATEGY

4. Members of the transportation task force and/or members of the follow-up task force should contact agencies and organizations potentially interested in the Delaware Task Force which we recommend. The list might include such agencies as the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, DAST, the Energy Office.

5. Conference follow-up staff should contact key union officials to explain the limited-access recommendations and to solicit their support. The target date for implementation of this plan should be no later than 1 July 1980.

Topic: 7 Law and the Family

Issue: A In what ways can crime among family members be prevented and thus promote healthy family life?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of federal, state and local governments to prevent and deal with child, spousal and elderly abuse.

Program Recommendations:

1. Congress should pass S.B. 1843 The Domestic Violence Treatment Act.
2. Local police agencies should give specialized training for police personnel in domestic violence situations. Police should be provided with a legal manual on what they can and cannot do in such situations.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals should be urged to write to their Federal and State legislators to pass the legislation recommended.
2. In Delaware a task force should be created comprised of members of the Family Court staff, Family Court judges, police and community to insure cooperation when dealing with family violence situations. This task force should be charged with the duties of disseminating information about family violence, solicitation of volunteers for abuse shelter and encouragement of the public to report cases of abuse

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
7	A	PROGRAM

3. The State of Delaware should pass S.B. 215 The Adult Protective Service Act which would give certain staff members of the Division of Aging the power to investigate for evidence of elderly abuse. It would also provide for temporary shelter for the victim.
4. Delaware should enact legislation that would remove the doctrine of inter-spousal immunity thereby allowing a spouse to bring a civil action against the abusive spouse where there are patterns of spousal abuse.
5. Delaware should enact legislation that would take the responsibility of prosecution for family violence offenses away from the victim and would place it in the hands of the state. The victim would not be able to drop the charges; that would be the state's prerogative.

Topic: 7 Law and the Family

Issue: B In what ways does the law fail to meet the problems arising out of divorce?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of federal and state governments to make divorce, custody and support laws more equitable and responsive to the needs of the family members involved.

Program Recommendations:

1. Federal and state governments should enact legislation which would provide for pension splitting upon divorce.
2. The terms of Family-Court judges should be reduced from 12 years to 6 years.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals should be urged to write to their Federal and state legislators to pass the legislation recommended.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
7	B	PROGRAM

3. Delaware should enact legislation which would appropriate money and staff for the existing child support enforcement agency. Such legislation should provide that the delinquent party pay for the costs of the investigation.
4. Delaware should enact legislation which would protect visitation rights of a parent that would more clearly insure that such rights would not be contingent upon child support unless the non-custodial parent was in violation of a valid support order.
5. Family Court judges should be made to give more consideration to awarding joint custody as a preferred resolution of a custody case unless it is determined that the best interest of the child would not be served.
6. Section 1396 Title 42 of U.S. Code should be amended to mandate medicaid coverage for low income families who are divorcing to ease the transitional period for families losing welfare income because of child or spousal support.

Topic: 7 Law and the Family

Issue: C In what ways can vandalism as a symptom of family instability be alleviated?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of state and local government to more strictly enforce the existing laws on vandalism.

Program Recommendations:

1. Existing legislation in Delaware on vandalism should be more strictly enforced by the police and judges.
2. Courts should be made to consider the remedy of restitution when the vandal is sentenced.
3. Concerned agencies and public citizens should contact legislators and the Governor for funding to increased the above services; community groups should be urged to support and participate in organization of volunteer programs to assist in provision of these services.
4. Family agencies and concerned individuals are urged to write to the news media, FCC to require Public Service Prime Time for dissemination of above materials and support from Public Service Organizations.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
7	C	PROGRAM

3. Community watch programs should be encouraged in neighborhoods with the cooperation of the police.

Topic: 8 Family Crises

Issue: A Drug Abuse. How can education and communication be promoted in families to assist them in the prevention and treatment of drug abuse?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the Board of Education to provide a required curriculum designed to prevent and detect potential drug abuse in schools.

Program Recommendations:

1. Delaware schools should require courses in parenting, values clarification, management of emotions, law, and actions and effects of drugs.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals should contact key governmental officials and public citizens groups to solicit support.
2. Concerned individuals are urged to write to legislators and the Governor to request funding for this program.
3. Concerned individuals should solicit active support for these services from governmental officials and organized citizens groups.
4. Family agencies and concerned individuals are urged to participate in and support collaboration in the pursuit of solutions to local problems of drug abuse.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
8	A	POLICY

2. It should be the policy of Health and Rehabilitation Services to support employment of more qualified mental health professionals to provide education and counseling to families.
3. It should be the policy of Health and Rehabilitation Services to provide improved diagnostic and treatment centers for drug abusers and support systems for families.
4. It should be the policy of Health and Rehabilitation Services to promote regular collaboration among agencies and community groups to provide education and programs to the community.

PROGRAM

2. Qualified mental health professionals should be employed to provide assessment and treatment of families and family members through existing community mental health centers.
3. Community and government agencies should collaborate to provide 24 hour crisis intervention and counseling services, inpatient and outpatient detoxification facilites, and follow-up treatment.
4. Monthly interagency meetings should be held for the purpose of identifying local drug abuse problems and to plan and institute programs to meet identified needs.

Topic: 8 **Family Crises**

Issue: B What are the linkages necessary among private and government institutions to maximize the provision of services dealing with alcohol use at a local level?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to institute activity to develop uniform state laws regarding legal age of alcohol purchase and consumption.
2. It should be the policy of HEW to encourage and support employers to provide programs for alcohol abusers and their families.

Program Recommendations:

1. The subject of uniform laws related to the legal age of alcohol consumption and purchase should be an item of discussion at the annual Governor's Conference.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals should contact the Governor and urge that a uniform alcohol consumption and purchase age law be an agenda item at annual Governor's Conference.
2. Parents and parent groups dealing with educational issues will be urged by concerned individuals to consider and promote this policy through proper channels.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
8	B	POLICY

3. It should be the policy of the state School Board of Education to institute a required curriculum in Science and Health courses which will emphasize substance use and abuse, and to encourage media to utilize information made available by the Board of Education.

PROGRAM

2. State Board of Education should, in conjunction with active parent groups, develop differential Health and Science courses appropriate to varying age and intellectual abilities; local media should collaborate with these groups and agencies to develop programs related to human growth and development and factors which distort growth and development.
3. Employers will be offered tax relief and encouraged to institute comprehensive programs to employees and their families including counseling, medical services, comprehensive health insurance, paid release time during work hours to utilize services, and cooperation from existing local alcohol programs and centers.

STRATEGY

3. Interested individuals will be encouraged to write to government officials to promote increased sales taxes on alcohol, and to request that funds be used to finance programs to assist families affected by alcohol abuse.

Topic: 8 Family Crises

Issue: C Delinquency. How can communication and education be promoted in families to assist in the prevention and treatment of delinquency in children and youth?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the state Board of Education to provide family education for early identification and prevention of problems involving children and youth.

Program Recommendations:

1. Delaware schools and DSS via contractual arrangements with private agencies should require courses in parenting, value clarification, rights, and responsibilities of youth and adults for all grades and at all public facilities to accomodate the adult community.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Through concerned citizen groups, coalition of private agencies, and individuals, the Governor and legislators should be urged to provide support and funding for the above education.
2. Concerned officials and agencies are urged to work with the Governor and Legislative Body to urge development of above legislation and

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
8	C	POLICY

2. It should be the policy of the Juvenile Justice System to insure civil rights of delinquents and their family units and provide improved diagnostic treatment and placement programs.
3. It should be the policy of DSS and private agencies to provide support services for families in crisis and under stress insuring protection of the child while helping to strengthen the family unit.
4. It should be the policy of public and private family agencies to increase general public awareness of symptoms of family crisis involving children and youth as well as the existence of and increased need for support resources within the community.

PROGRAM

2. The Juvenile Justice System should insure civil rights of delinquent by providing qualified legal representation at the accusatory and detention stages, and revise the current Mandatory Sentencing Law. Treatment and placement facilities should be evaluated for determination of effectiveness and comprehensive diagnostic program should be established.
3. Public and private agencies should collaborate to provide increased support services for Families in crisis such as crisis hot lines, 24 hour counseling services, home-maker facilities, parent support groups and emergency foster care.
4. A consortium of public and private agencies should establish a coordinated campaign to educate the public via radio, TV and written media about problems of child abuse, neglect, and early signs of delinquency with families and the need for increased crisis supports.

TOPIC: Family Crisis: Delinquency

RATIONALE: The Policy, Recommendation and Strategy stated below were inadvertently omitted from the original Task Force Summary. Please include the below as point 5.

Policy Recommendation:

It should be the policy of the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services to strengthen its committment of services for early identification and prevention of youth and family related problems.

Program Recommendation:

DSS, in conjunction with Private Agencies, should provide for increased emphasis by staff and program services which focus on goals of early identification and prevention of youth and family related problems.

Strategy Recommendation:

Public and Private Agencies and concerned citizens should contact the Governor and the Legislature to lobby for increased funds for development of above programs which emphasize prevention. Concerned individuals and agencies should urge the Department of Health and Social Services to strengthen its committment on prevention.

Topic: 9 FAMILY RELATIONS

Issue: A In what ways can families be encouraged to be involved as a family unit in activities which will strengthen relationships?

Policy Recommendations:

1. There should be more focus on the family as a unit.

Program Recommendations:

1. Religious, educational, ethnic, and community groups should be encouraged to provide guidance (opportunities) for family members to be engaged in certain activities as individual and family units.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The Conference follow-up staff will invite religious and other community group leaders to meet in county or smaller regional meetings to enlist their cooperation and involvement in this project.
2. Leaders at County and State levels would contact media managers and request cooperation.
3. Leaders would encourage individuals and groups to write and call media officials asking support.

2. The above named groups should be encouraged to provide opportunities for intergenerational activities for members of participating families.
3. Encourage media coverage of events depicting positive aspects of family relationships.

Topic: 9 Family Relations

Issue: B How can families be helped to develop values and morals at home?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The federal govenment should place a strong emphasis upon the enrichment of the family as a unit (system) and focus upon the preventive aspect of care (building on family strengths as differentiated from responding only to crises).

Program Recommendations:

1. The federal government should encourage industry to develop family life programs for employees by:
   a. Providing tax incentives for the development of such programs.
   b. Educating business (management and labor) about the advantages of family life programming.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. a. Determine what kind of legislation (i.e., amendment to Title XX of the Social Security Act or totally new legislation) would be most appropriate to accomplishing the program recommendations.
   b. Concerned individuals and groups should be encouraged to write their congresspersons and senators, urging them to support the appropriate legislation.

Topic: 9 Family Relations

Issue: C In what ways can family units (single parent, dual parent,or extended family) manage each 24 hour period so that sufficient time and effort can be devoted to family needs and concerns?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The Federal Government should publicly recognize the social and economic pressures on various kinds of family units and support them as they seek to provide care and nurturance for their members in innovative ways.

Program Recommendations:

1. Traditional male and female roles need to become more flexible to allow both parties to work productively for wages and both to give freely to meet needs of family.
2. Adolescents should be given the opportunity to work within the community as well as in the family.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Employers institute job sharing and flex-time programs for employees.
2. Local businesses hire and give on-the-job training to adolescents.
3. Encourage employers to establish on-site day care.
4. Federal government should provide tax incentives for private citizens who establish day care centers.
5. Licensure and certification of day care programs should continue to be the responsibility of state and/or local agencies.
6. Encourage churches and voluntary organizations to be extended families providing persons to serve as babysitters, homehelpers,etc.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
9	C	PROGRAM

3. Families need to set priorities which take into consideration values, needs, and wants of the individual members as well as the total family.
4. Adequate child care resources must be made available which can serve as temporary surrogate parents.
5. The task of childrearing must be viewed as a covenant to the child which implies dedication and preparation.
6. Aging members of the family need to be considered as contributors to and receivers of family benefits.

STRATEGY

7. The state department of education develop and provide low cost educational programs in the areas of values clarification, communication, financial, stress, and time management.

Topic: 10 The Family & World Problems

Issue: A How can the threat of war be prevented from deteriorating the quality of family living and undermining the strength and stability of family life in America?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to evaluate the impact of all military decisions of families.
2. It should be the policy of the federal government not to sacrifice social programs needed by families in favor of preparedness of war.

Program Recommendations:

1. Develop a family impact statement to be attached to all military legislation.
2. Create, fund, evaluate and refund or cut social programs based on needs of individual persons and families.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Conference follow-up staff should inform and encourage concerned citizens to write to their Congressmen and Senators.
2. Conference follow-up staff should contact key governmental leaders to inform them of Conference findings, to explain the recommendations and to gain their support.
3. Conference follow-up staff should contact Union officials and leaders in big business and industry to inform them of Conference findings, to explain the recommendations and to gain their support.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
10	A	POLICY

3. It should be the policy of the federal government (a) to have no peace-time draft or registration; and (b) to develop alternatives to a registration.
4. It should be the policy of the federal government to define, clarify, and continuously update the nation's "foreign vital interests" and their impact on the population.

PROGRAM

3. Amend the laws of the country in such a way as to (a) prohibit peace-time draft and registration; (b) to increase the incentives to enlist in the National Guard, the Reserves and the Regular Armed Forces; (c) eliminate quotas for women in the Armed Services.
4. Establish a public policy that would require the president of the United States to publicly and annually define and clarify "foreign vital interests" of the nation; a kind of "Vital Interests Address" similar to the "State of the Union Address.

ADDENDUM

1. The threat of war is seen to have the following negative implications for families:
   a. heightened fear of nuclear war (such fear increases the anxiety level of various members of families causing tension, conflict, etc.);
   b. loss of faith in government among many;
   c. unfair burden on draft age population;
   d. loss of funds for social programs so badly needed by families;
   e. increased inflation;

   f disaffection of young people
   g family separations.

Topic: 10 The Family & World Problems

Issue: B How can the actions and inactions of government, big business and industry that are eroding people's faith in the future and thereby adversely affecting American families be reversed?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to do what is necessary to fight inflation effectively.
2. It should be the policy of federal, state, and local governments to consult more regularly with citizens.

Program Recommendations:

1. Initiate wage and price controls while developing effective, long-range means of controlling inflation vis., increasing productivity, balancing the federal budget over a long but scheduled period of time; establishing realistic credit controls.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Conference follow-up staff should inform and encourage concerned citizens to write to their congressmen and senators.
2. Conference follow-up staff should contact government leaders to inform them of conference findings, to explain the recommendations and to gain their support.

3. Conference follow-up staff should contact union officials and leaders in big business and industry to inform them of conference findings, to explain the recommendations and to gain their support.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
10	B	POLICY

3. It should be the policy of the federal, state, and local governments, of big business, industry and the financial institutions to find new ways to make it possible for persons to purchase their own homes.
4. It should be the policy of the federal government to provide national health insurance.
5. It should be the policy of the federal government to have a comprehensive approach to energy needs and resources.
6. It should be the policy of the federal government and big business to establish and maintain ethical practices in exporting to other countries.
7. It should be the policy of federal, state, and local governments to consult more regularly with citizens.

PROGRAM

2. Promote the creation of more jobs in the private sector through tax credits and other means, while maintaining and even enlarging public jobs programs as a short-term alternative.
3. Make graduated interest loans more readily available for the purchase of homes; sell government bonds to establish a pool home building materials; evaluate and make appropriate changes in zoning and building codes to allow new materials to be used thereby reducing cost of housing.
4. Develop a comprehensive health care policy beginning with a policy to cover catastrophic illness.
5. Complete and fully implement a comprehensive energy policy.
6. Establish more frequent contacts and lines of communication between the government and the citizens of the country.
7. Formulate, implement, and enforce ethical guidelines for the production of products used in the U.S. or exported to other countries, viz., baby formulas.

Topic: 10 The Family & World Problems

Issue: C In what ways should the environment be protected from the serious pollution which is undermining the quality of life and the future of American families?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal, state and local governments to balance the need for a pollution free environment with the impact this has on cost of products, inflation, loss of jobs and increased energy use.

Program Recommendations:

1. Develop efficient means of mass transportation in the cities.
2. Develop a nuclear regulatory agency that is free from the pressures of politics, big business and industry.
3. Develop safe chemical and nuclear waste disposal programs.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Conference follow-up staff should inform and encourage concerned citizens to write to their Congressmen and Senators.
2. Conference follow-up staff should contact key governmental leaders to inform them of Conference findings, to explain recommendations and to gain their support.
3. Conference follow-up staff should contact Union officials and leaders in big business and industry to inform them of Conference findings, to explain recommendations and to gain their support.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
10	C	PROGRAM

4. Develop pest control procedures that do not pollute the land and water as do many pesticides.
5. Develop alternative energy sources that are clean and safe, viz., solar, wind, water, and garbage.
6. Develop environmental impact statements that include (a) a statement of the impact of pollution on people's health; and (b) a statement of the impact of cleaning up the environment on such things as cost of products, inflation, loss of jobs and increased energy use.
7. Develop more public service announcements to promote pride in a clean community.
8. Institute control for noise pollution.
9. Enforce present strip-mining laws.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

TOPIC: I. Families and Economic Well-Being

ISSUE: A. Job training and employment is needed for youth, recovered alcoholics, and drug abusers, and the handicapped.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government funding should include provision for outreach efforts to inform the public of existing programs.
2. Alcoholism is to be reviewed as an illness.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public schools and private agencies should provide educational, preventive study programs concerning the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Existing regulations protecting the handicapped and providing for their rights should be enforced.
2. Greater networking should exist among on-going services now available, including police work with juveniles.
3. D. C. should open or re-open detoxification centers.
4. Counseling services should be provided for family members at all stages of life.
5. Transportation services for the handicapped should be improved.
6. The goal of social services should be to foster independence. Red tape should be cut between the time the problem is identified and the time the necessary services begin.

ISSUE: B. Tax structure and policy is archaic and insensitive to the needs of families, particularly those with children.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Existing policy should not penalize the working poor.
2. Just as all government policies must be considered for how they impact on the environment, all policies of government should be evaluated for its impact on family well-being.
3. No discrimination against non-traditional marriages.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Re-evaluate tax policy relative to family structure, i.e., single parent, two working parents, elderly on fixed income.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Educate the public as consumers making them aware of existing tax policies.

2. Lobby local and national legislators for needed changes.

ISSUE C. Inflation is a major threat to families and their economic well-being.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Reduce availability of "easy credit."

2. Review changing policies regarding mortgage availability.

3. Review definition of poverty level.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Educate the public as consumers, stress home economics.

2. Government programs should stress ways to increase family unity rather than encourage displacement of family members in order to gain services.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Abolish laws requiring the elderly to lose benefits upon re-marriage.

2. Abolish laws requiring the father to leave home in order for the family to qualify for services.

3. Provide counseling and education regarding economics at all stages of family life.

4. Prevent mailing of unsolicited credit cards encouraging spending to be paid off at high interest rate.

TOPIC: II. Families and Federal Policy

ISSUE: A. The families of the District of Columbia are without representation in matters of Federal policy making.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Citizens of the District of Columbia be granted citizenship rights in the form of representation in both the Senate and the House.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Statesbe responsible for passage of the Voting Rights Amendment.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDSTIONS:

1. Congressmen and Senators work with their respective states to secure the passage of the Voting Rights Amendment.

2. The District of Columbia boycott economic expenditure of all sorts in all states that have not passed the Amendment.

3. That employees of the District of Columbia (Virginia residents) be encouraged to bring pressure to bear on their state to allow their employer to have the same right they have.

ISSUE: B. Federal, State, and local legislation have an impact on families of all types.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Each piece of proposed legislation or policy should be assessed for its impact on families.

2. Expand the definition of family to make services available to greater numbers of needy people, i.e., extended family, non-related caretakers

3. Policies should be written to be sensitive to individual and family needs, rather than to maintain the system.

4. Policies should strengthen family units rather than look for or recommend alternate placement for family members.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Programs resulting from policy on families should be evaluated from the standpoint of whether they strengthen or weaken the family.

2. Family Impact Statement should guide program development.

3. Social Service, government-funded programs should foster independence as their goals.

4. Existing programs should not penalize the working poor.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. All committees should submit an impact statement with their committee's work.

2. Existing legislation and policies should be assessed for impact on families.

3. Program and policies that weaken the family should be revised into more positive mechanisms.

4. Review S1808 and HR6028 Congressional Bills being circulated as "pro-family" for their actual limitations placed on families and individuals.

5. The government should make funds available to educate the public as to what programs are available to them.

ISSUE: C. Tax structure and policy is archaic and insensitive to the needs of families.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Abolish discrimination or penalties based on marital status or family size.

2. Tax laws and policies be changed to encourage families to care for their members in their own homes.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Revise existing laws and policies regarding corporate income tax or high personal income tax to insure needed revenue.

2. Programs be changed to encourage family support.

3. Programs should reflect the family unit of caring for elderly members.

4. Programs be provided to help care for older members or handicapped through day care, week-end care, etc.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Lobby local and national legislators for necessary changes in law.

2. Lobby IRS for necessary policy changes.

3. Innovative projects be tried to project good family care for the elderly.

4. Families be educated to their rights and responsibilities.

TOPIC: III. Families and Human Needs

ISSUE: A. Individuals (and families) need to be comfortable with their own sexuality.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Opportunities should be provided to all (children, youth, and adults) through educational institutions (public schools) and/or city agencies to participate in programs (educational) centered on human sexuality.

2. Counseling services should be provided for family members at all stages of life.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Schools should include courses in human sexuality in their curriculum.
2. Adult education courses should be offered in human sexuality.
3. Agencies (public and private) should offer programs that deal with human sexuality.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Educate the public as to the need.
2. Lobby appropriate school boards and heads of agencies.

ISSUE: B. Individuals and families need to know and have available various alternatives for family planning.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government policy should not limit one's choices concerning abortion.
2. All forms of family planning be available to those who so desire them.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Educational programs be available for the purpose of informing people of the many forms of family planning.
2. Alternatives to abortion be provided to those who desire them.
3. Governmental funds be available to those who desire abortions but cannot afford them.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Inform the public of the whys of abortion -- dispell many of the myths.
2. Provide a wide variety of alternatives and the means to them to those who are considering not having/keeping a child.

ISSUE: C. Children having children makes them all vulnerable.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Legal services should be made available to adolescent mothers with children born out of wedlock.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Parenting skills should be stressed prior to pregnancy.

2. Parents suspected of child abuse should have programs available in child care and parenting skills.

3. Educational institutions should begin early training in the expectations of marriage and in sexual responsibility.

4. Improved pregnancy outcome programs should be supported and expanded.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. There is a need for individuals and families to live with a sense of religious concepts and a sense of morality.

2. Media should provide more positive and responsible image of marriage, sexual behavior, and the family.

3. Day care services should be provided to young mothers interested in continuing their education, training, or employment.

4. Government needs to assess the needs of young mothers and father, i.e., teenagers who are raising children.

TOPIC: IV. Families and Education

ISSUE: A. Schools should do more to educate the public regarding nutrition as well as family life.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Facts on the importance of nutrition should be made available at all levels of public education.

2. Courses on nutrition should take into consideration cultural eating patterns.

3. Courses in family life and preparation for marriage should be available at all grade levels.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Courses in family life should cover such topics as sexuality, parenting skills, responsibility in marriage, family communications.

2. The importance of nutrition should be stressed particularly with young pregnant women in order to reduce infant mortality.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Lobby Department of Education and appropriate local offices for necessary curricula changes or additions.

ISSUE: B. Laws and regulations regarding mandatory school attendance need to be changed.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Mandatory attendance age requirements should be changed from 7 years to 16 years to be 3 years to 21 years instead.
2. Competancy examinations should be instituted.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Increase the age range for which public education is made available.
2. Utilize examinations to determine whether students have achieved proper level of education.
3. Attendance in school would be required until age limit is reached or competency examination passed, whichever occurs first.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Lobby legislators and Department of Education for needed changes.
2. Fully implement PL 94-142.

ISSUE: C. Schools and the media (TV) itself should be utilized to teach the influence of the media on family life.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. TV stations should provide ratings indicating age or family members toward whom programs are aimed.
2. TV stations liscensed by the District of Columbia should educate the public as to what government services are available.
3. Government should educate the public regarding the influence of TV in everyday life.
4. Local TV should go off the air one day per year to encourage family communication.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Television programming should give more positive images of families and family life.
2. Television programs should give more positive images of minorities and reduce stereotypes presented.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Involve necessary regulatory agencies.
2. Involve local and national television executives responsible for programming.
3. Involve sponsors.

4. Involve citizens in boycott of programs, networks, sponsors, or television if necessary.

TOPIC: V. Families and Health Care

ISSUE: A. All children are entitled to adequate health care.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Expand definition of eligibility for services.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Make comprehensive health care a right for every child regardless of income level.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Actively enforce EPSDT and P.L. 94-142 regulations.
2. Expand eligibility and funding for both.

ISSUE: B. The problem of infant mortality should be addressed, particularly in the District of Columbia.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The Improved Pregnancy Outcome program should be supported in its aims.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Increase public awareness of importance of nutrition and pre-natal care.
2. Increase courses in human sexuality, individual and collective responsibility, teenage parenthood.
3. Recognize the role of churches in teaching moral values and responsibility.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Lobby to insure necessary funding.

ISSUE: C. Health care centers are needed at the local level.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Comprehensive health care facilities should be made available conveniently within each neighborhood.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Services should be provided for all ages and made barrier-free to the elderly and the handicapped.
2. Services should be made available to deal with alcohol and drug abuse.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Request funding from DHEW and other appropriate sources.

TOPIC: VI. Families and the Elderly

ISSUE: A. Families should be encouraged to maintain elderly members at home.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Families retaining the elderly at home should receive tax benefits.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Programs should be instituted to facilitate the care of the elderly by their own family members at home.
2. Day care services or respite services should be instituted where needed.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Request changes in tax policy and other income maintenance policies regarding the elderly which penalizes them for living with family members.
2. Revise tax laws to benefit families who keep the elderly at home.
3. Expand medicare payments to families for in-home care.
4. Monitor and support WHCA recommendations.

ISSUE: B. Public transportation should facilitate freedom of movement for the elderly.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public transportation should be able to accommodate the elderly with conveyances that are easy to board and exit and that serve the communities and residences where the elderly reside.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Explore possibilities of special on-call vans or taxicabs as part of the public transportation system to service the elderly as well as the handicapped.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Explore funding through DOT.

ISSUE: C. Quality day care services should be available to families with elderly members.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government should provide or increase quality day care services for elderly family members.

2. The service should be covered under Medicare.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Quality day care facilities should be convenient to working families who wish to maintain their elderly members at home.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Revise regulations of the Health Care Financing Administration to include this service.

TOPIC: VII. Families and Housing

ISSUE: A. Housing policies which discriminate against families with children should be eliminated.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. At the local level (District of Columbia), the Human Rights Act on 1977 must be amended to include the issues of discrimination against children.

2. Housing should be available to families without regard to family size or age of family members.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public and private housing facilities should be designed to accommodate families of various sizes and who are also comprised of a wide spectrum of age ranges.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Revise present regulations or legislation through the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

ISSUE: B. Policies and legislation must be developed to support neighborhood stability and strengths.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Housing policy should reflect and draw from the strengths within neighborhoods.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Housing programs and policies should recognize and reflect the idea that neighborhood stability provides a sound environment for families.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Revise current legislation and regulations as needed. Monitor proposed legislation and regulations.

ISSUE: C. Low income families have the right to adequate housing options.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Housing policies should not disrupt neighborhoods.
2. Families should not be forced to leave neighborhoods or re-locate based on family income.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Housing policy should address issues of rent control and condominium conversion.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Implement condominium conversion and rent control regulations.

TOPIC: VIII. Families with Special Challenges

ISSUE: A. The rights of the handicapped should not be abridged.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Already existing 504 regulations should be enforced.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public policy which interferes with the quality of life of the handicapped must be eliminated.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Include the handicapped on boards, commissions, policy-making bodies.

ISSUE: B. Public transportation should be accessible to the handicapped.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Transportation systems, as they are being developed, should take the mobility problems of the handicapped into consideration.
2. Existing systems should be revised where indicated.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The possibility of specially designed, alternative transportation systems for the disabled should be explored.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Continue to monitor development of newly designed transportation systems.
2. Revise old systems where needed.

ISSUE: C. Quality day care services are needed for some disabled family members.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Family members should be encouraged to maintain disabled or retarded family members at home where practical.
2. Government policy should support this form of family unity.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Day care, week-end care, respite care should be available to families who maintain handicapped members at home.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Expand eligibility and services provided by the Health Care Financing Administration.

TOPIC: IX. Families and the Law

ISSUE: A. Child custody laws and practices need to be revised.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. There should be no discrimination against fathers in child custody hearings.

2. The need for multiple foster placements for children should be eliminated.

3. Gays or homosexuals should be allowed to adopt or retain custody of their own children without discrimination.

4. Child support should be based on income of both parents.

5. Kidnapping of own children not in custody should be punishable by law.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Review impact of custody decisions, separation and divorce, and alternate life styles on children.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Revise laws or regulations which unduly discriminate or penalize in child custody cases.

2. Enact legislation which would make the kidnapping of one's natural children illegal.

ISSUE: B. Juvenile justice and delinquency needs a fresh approach.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Solutions other than arrest and detention should be sought when apprehending juveniles.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Parents should be made by the Courts, in some situations where it is apparently needed, to attend training and parental skills classes.

2. More coordination should be enforced between police and social service agencies with reference to juvenile crime.

3. Police and other law enforcement officials should take more steps toward crime prevention than currently exists.

4. Some sort of discipline should be reinstated in the school system.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Revise present legislation, regulations.

2. Form new and innovative social service alliances.

ISSUE: C. Citizens have a right to know what laws exist and how they impact on their lives.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government should use more outreach in terms of public media to inform the public concerning proposed rule making, existing legislation and regulations and how they impact on family life.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government should increase funding to provide outreach to citizens concerning laws which effect them.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Increase the use of public service announcements.
2. Redirect the use of public service announcements to include notice of proposed rule making.

TOPIC: X. Families and Religion

ISSUE: A. A sense of religious concepts and morality is important to families.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Religious attitudes must begin at home.
2. Government should avoid threatening the moral and religious values of any group.
3. Laws need to identify what the population as a whole believes is morally right.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Support churches and their efforts to strengthen marriage.
2. Allow prayer in school.
3. Pray for control of inflation.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Continue to strive for separation of church and state.
2. Educational and lobbying efforts to promote the understanding of the relationship between freedom of religion and its role in the support of a free society

ISSUE: B. The church works to strengthen marriages.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Impose required waiting period prior to marriage to avoid hasty marriages.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The government should not interfere with the church which works to strengthen marriage by developing trust in each partner as man and wife, by developing morality in the family, by developing respect for each other, by developing clearly the role of man and wife, and by developing family unity.
2. Education for parenting.
3. Tax policies should not discriminate against marriage.
4. Review of tax policy vis-a-vis religious institutions.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Continue to strive for separation of church and state.

ISSUE: C. Individual families should develop their own family strengths as opposed to having agencies, etc., dictate the order of their lives.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government policies should not interfere with family unity.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Social services agencies should be structured to provide family support where needed without becoming actively involved with usurping family authority for establishing its own direction.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Revise authority and goals of social agencies to be supportive of the family unit but without discriminating against single parent families or other patterns of life styles.

GEORGIA

TOPICS **ISSUES** **RECOMMENDATIONS**

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR THE FAMILY

Issues:
1. Community leaders should develop systematic and timely ways to focus attention on the strengths and needs of families.
2. Provide consistent effort to insure the integrity of families whose cultural and ethnic heritages have made valuable contributions to the American way of life.
3. Develop mechanisms to enhance the communities' understanding of and appreciation for the variety of family patterns such as: nuclear, adoptive, extended, foster, and single parent families.
4. Focus attention on and resources for families with special needs such as: physical disabilities, mental disabilities, or incarcerated family members.

Recommendations:

A. That local, state and federal governments invest significant energies and financial resources in preventive and family education life coping skills relationships. Skills utilizing existing community institutions to enhance healthy family life.

B. That homosexual families be included as a category under sub-heading #3.

C. Recommended that state school superintendents be directed to extend use of public school buildings for after school care and community education activities for and about the families not necessarily at state expense.

D. Provide consistent efforts to insure the integrity of ethnic and minority family cultural values through such ways as community education and in-service training to be provided to workers in human service organizations both public and private, and by establishing a statewide network of information available to people working with such minorities.

E. Focus attention on and provide resources for families with special needs such as: physical disabilities, mental disabilities, incarcerated family members, the aged, teenage parents to be implemented through educational resources, school systems and seminars, adult education and other community resources.

TOPICS ISSUES RECOMMENDATIONS

THE ELDERLY AND SOCIETY

Issues:
1. Improve supportive services to the elderly in order to help them maintain an independent lifestyle, for example: homemaker services, day care and meals on wheels.
2. Develop community activities which can enhance elderly persons' sense of community usefulness.
3. Evaluate and modify regulations to insure adequate health care, housing and other forms of assistance for the elderly.

Recommendations: Transportation - Group recommends some type transportation plan be developed for the elderly.

Care - The need to include night time care along with day care.

Services - Community activities and services should be extended to occasionally be used on the weekend. Consideration should be given to the kindship and friendship of families.

Develop and coordinate community activities which can enhance the elderly.

Other Recommendations:

To encourage schools, universities, and vocational programs to train students to go out and work with and live with the elderly.

To encourage the right to die with dignity.

To change medicaid regulations to include night care.

Financial support for children who support home bound parents.

Widows of non-workers need to get Social Security along with Social Security Insurance.

Each county needs to establish an advocacy group of elderly citizens to study aging and how it affects them.

Recommend passage of HR 6194 Medicaid Community Care Act of 1980.

To increase funds in the health program to include mental health.

Each county commission should establish an advocacy commission of elderly citizens to study aging and how it is affecting them.

TOPICS **ISSUES** **RECOMMENDATIONS**

EDUCATION AND THE FAMILY

Issues: 1. Use the facilities of school systems to meet family needs such as: adult education, after school care, drug abuse education, and parent-child communication skills education.
2. Strengthen families through community-based family life skills programs.
3. Encourage and strengthen the interaction between parents and schools.

Recommendations: A. The use of public facilities such as school systems should be considered for use by public agencies or private groups contracting for their use to provide for adult education, after school care, drug abuse education, parent-child communication skills, education and other programs to be identified.
B. Recommend the family as the basic family life skills training institution and recommend the strengthening of families by offering community based education and prevention programs in family life skills.
C. Establish processes which will encourage and strengthen interaction between family members and school resources.

TOPIC - EDUCATION AND THE FAMIILY

Would like the wording changed in the first recommendation to include the phrase, "community based," before "private groups."

Recognize the family as the basic family life skills training institution and recommend the strengthening of families by offering community based education and prevention programs in family life skills.

Establish processes which will encourage and strengthen interaction between family members and school resources.

TOPICS **ISSUES** **RECOMMENDATIONS**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Issues: 1. Establish community-based family development centers that will provide counseling and referral services for abused family members.
2. Provide necessary training for police, social workers, medical workers, teachers, and other helping persons who are in contact with abused family members.

Recommendations: Sub-heading I

A. Establish community based and controlled family crisis and development centers and/or programs and/or shelters which will provide counseling, referral services, education, shelter and program evaluation for abused family members as determined by the local community, using existing services when possible.

Sub-heading II

A. Provide necessary education for recognizing and understanding abused persons and training for the community, social workers, medical workers, students and school personnel, elected and appointed officials, judicial, volunteers and others who are in contact with abused family members. We suggest mandatory training for law enforcement personnel.

TOPICS ISSUES RECOMMENDATIONS

FAMILIES AND THE WORK WORLD

Issues:
1. Consider and encourage the modifying of work hours to allow family members time together.
2. A variety of day care facilities should be available, i.e. close to work or on-site.
3. Recognize and provide financial incentives for the work efforts of homemakers.
4. Provide training and assistance to homemakers and other persons who enter the work force at midlife.
5. Provide job training and counseling to adolescents in search of a job.

Recommendations: Sub-heading I

1. That maternity and paternity leaves should be fixed by government legislation for a minimum of 3 months with no loss of seniority or other benefits.
2. That government provide encouragement and enabling programs (for workers in public and private sector in terms of personal motivation and educational help) to make family life a priority that would enhance job performance.

3. That the options of a 4 day work-week, slide-time and job sharing be adopted by state and federal government which would enhance family relationships.

TOPIC

FAMILIES AND THE WORK WORLD - Continued

Sub-heading II

1. That funds be made available for day-care services for children of students in vocational/technical schools, thus allowing them to further their education.
2. That the government provide tax incentives to industries to allow for on-site day-care facilities.
3. That the government should encourage use of community facilities, (schools, churches, etc.), to provide supervision for school children before and after school.
4. That nursing facilities should be provided in day-care centers for sick children, thus lessening job absenteeism.
5. That more money be put into day-care for mothers on welfare to enable them to begin working and thus be removed from the welfare system.
6. That day-care provisions be geared primarily toward single parent households, with an emphasis on children being kept at home in dual parent households.
7. That day-care programs both public and private be available to those working part-time as well as for those working full-time.
8. That there should be increased public funding for child care centers.

Sub-heading III

1. That the same tax credits which are available to families with two working parents be made available to families in which only one parent is employed.
2. Universalize laws governing joint tenancy so that homemakers rights are protected and thus not penalizing those individuals who remain in the home.

Sub-heading IV

1. Those individuals who are entering or re-entering the work force at mid-life after an extended absence should be

   recognized by federal and state agencies, such as vocational rehabilitation, as eligible for services presently being provided by existing agencies.

Sub-heading V

1. U. S. Department of Labor should adopt for national implementation those research and demonstration programs in which an outside

evaluation has proven to be successful.

2. U. S. Government should encourage vocational counseling to students for career planning in non-traditional areas.
3. Children should have the opportunity to learn vocational skills in a non-paying apprenticeship situation.
4. To encourage experientially based internships as a career education model as part of the career development program through the public school system.

Sub-heading VI

1. In view of the growing number of one parent families (single parent), headed by women, the increasing concentration of women in lower paying positions and the widening income gap between women and men, it is recommended that closer monitoring of existing laws concerning fair employment practices be effected and that emphasis be given to improving federal enforcement procedures against discrimination in employment practices.

TOPICS ISSUES RECOMMENDATIONS

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR THE FAMILY

Issues:
1. Assistance regulations should be changed to eliminate any disruptive impact on the family unit.
2. The rights of parents and children should be protected in the face of disruptive situations such as divorce, abuse, death, and other traumatic separations.
3. Monitor and examine current efforts to change family law in order to insure that changes are supportive of the family unit structures.
4. Find ways to provide financial and other incentives that will encourage family cohesiveness and self

Recommendations: Sub-heading I

1. That Georgia Code 99 should be abolished. Code 99 stipulates that Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), will not be available to a family in which there is an able-bodied male head of household.

Sub-heading II

1. Children should not be required to testify in open court against parents or others who are accused of sexual abuse of the child, but rather that the testimony should be video-taped for court presentation.

Sub-heading III

1. A father should be required to legally and

financially support his children. Concern centered around or emphasis on the father instead of the parents (including mother) and the Child Support Recovery Act which is already a law.

2. Addendum to sub-heading 3 to read "Such changes should include providing legal rights to all children regardless of the marital status of the parents."

Sub-heading IV

1. To return the brunt of the financial responsibility for the welfare of the people to the state and local communities instead of the federal government.
2. The U. S. House of Representatives should pass a constitutional amendment which would require a balanced federal budget except in time of an attack upon the U. S.
3. To allow government supported child day-care to low income working families.
4. The tax structure should be revised to tax everyone equally (percentage-wise and under 10%).

TOPICS ISSUES RECOMMENDATIONS

FAMILIES AND THE LAW

Issues:
1. Evaluate and amend the juvenile system in order to minimize disruption of the family unit.
2. Improve the legal system's ability to protect the rights and minimize disruption of families as the system manages cases of child neglect, adoption, foster care, divorce, and alimony.
3. Amend the legal system to provide improved counseling services for disrupted families.

Recommendations: Sub-heading I

A. A concern for uniform juvenile penalties.
B. Need for parental accountability in relation to criminal acts by juveniles.
C. Need for uniform system of tangible restitution, by juvenile offenders.
D. Need for non-institutional housing for status offenders.
E. Establishment of uniform juvenile offender codes and publishing of same.
F. Establishment of family court concept with discretion and jurisdiction on parents and juveniles.
G. Establishment of non-institutional housing for state offenders.

Sub-heading II

A. A concern for single parents unable to receive child care and divorce settlements.
B. Need to establish a court relationship of a non-adversary role.

C. Need to address the lack of education for persons considering matrimony.
D. Need for law education by all persons.
E. Establishment of uniform codes and reciprocity relationships between states.
F. Establishment of mediation services that are extra-legal in nature.
G. Establishment of educational programs prior to issuance of marriage license.
H. Establishment of programmatic law education offerings.

Sub-heading III

A. Need for prenatal counseling.
B. Need for judicial education on counseling options.
C. Need for more widespread counseling on secondary and elementary school levels.
D. Establishment of prenatal counseling services.
E. Establishment of judicial and para-legal education/counseling programs.
F. Establish direct relationships between the flow of federal dollars and the consistency of counseling programs.

TOPICS ISSUES RECOMMENDATIONS

FAMILIES AND THE MEDIA

Issues: 1. Increase families' knowledge and skill in viewing and making media selections.
2. Evaluate and modify regulations that govern media in order to assure that a strong family unit is a foundation principle.

Recommendations: A. Consideration should be given to better ways to encourage the community to use the airwaves for community services.
B. Develop an educational process so citizens will know their rights, responsibilities and influence in the media process.
C. Local programming should be made more responsive to community needs, in ways other than public service announcements.
D. Georgians attending the Baltimore Conference should try to implement policies that make the services of libraries more available to families.

MAINE*

Topic:

Economic Situation causes stress on families

Issue:

- Increase economic development
- Create more jobs
- reduce inflation
- promote small business and self-employment as well as big business
- increase job training and vocational education
- make workplace more supportive of families: (workplace day care, flextime, job sharing)

Topic:

FAMILY GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT: EDUCATION AND VALUES

Issue:

- who should teach values: home, school, both?
- improve home-school, parent-school partnership
- family life education: pre-marriage, childbirth, nutrition, health, parenting, child development, family life, care-giving
- redefine the goals of education

Topic:

COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS : Natural Networks and Self-help Groups

Issue:

- Improve cooperation between schools, civic groups, religious organizations
- More community control over programs and tax dollars
- Increase volunteerism
- Families should participate in self-help and support groups
- Families should join with other families to develop extended family networks to help each other.

Topic:

HOME-BASED AND COMMUNITY-BASED SOCIAL SERVICES

Issue:

- Give in-home and community-based supportive and supplemental services priority over institutional or substitutive services.
- More respite care and flexible services that strengthen families.
- More preventive services.
- Decentralize human services, cut red tape, end duplicative services, end fragmentation of family services

Topic:

CHILD CARE

Issue:

- Day care: increase resources by increased funding and use of existing community faciliti
- Improve cooperation with businesses by providing tax incentives for workplace day care
- Increase community involvement, intergenerational child care, interfamily child care
- flextime, latch-key programs

Topic.

GOVERNMENT: ENHANCE FAMILY STATUS

Issue:

- EMPOWER FAMILIES: recognize them as resources; recognize dignity of family regardless of economic status.
- RECOGNIZE FAMILIES AS EQUALS TO 'EXPERTS", PROFESSIONALS, GOVERNMENT.
- Provide tax incentives to families to care for their own elderly and handicapped.
- Establish family impact statements by local or state review committees.
- Train families to cope with bureaucracy and service providers.
- Change the tax system to favor keeping the family unit together.
- End marriage penalties in tax policies and assistance programs, including AFDC, Social Security, disability insurance, unemployment compensation

Topic:

SPECIAL CHALLENGES

Issue:

Need for a dialogue on abortion

Topic:

MEDIA

Issue:

- Need to educate the media regarding their influence on and responsibility to families.
- Need to educate businesses that sponsor television programs about their responsibilities
- The media should be more positive about families and more supportive of families.

MARYLAND

Topic:

Government - local, state, federal

Issue:

1. Government accountability to families

Policy Recommendations: Government should respect the rights of families: infringement of parental and family authority by government should be curtailed.

Program Recommendations: Laws and programs should be reviewed to determine government's accountability to all families. Programs should be developed with a view towards minimizing governmental responsibilities and maximizing the responsibilities of families.

Strategy Recommendations: Individual families should make their feelings, attitudes and needs known to legislators at all levels of government. Government should provide the resources for studies on this issue, and should involve families at all levels.

Topic:

Government - local, state, federal

Issue:

2. Traditional family structures

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the government to encourage traditional family structures. There was also significant support for government policy to recognize diverse family structure.

Program Recommendations: Laws and programs should not interfere with the traditional family structure.

Strategy Recommendations: The public should inform the government at all levels of their feelings and attitudes on this issue.

Topic:

Government - local, state, federal

Issue:

3. Government and family strength

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of government to support and strengthen families.

Program Recommendations: Laws or programs should be passed, reviewed or amended to strengthen family life, and should deal with the family as a whole unit. Family impact statements should be an integral part of the law-making process.

Strategy Recommendations: The White House Conference should establish oversight committees in order to formulate national policies and programs to strengthen families.

Topic:

Family Crises

Issue:

1. Abortion

Policy Recommendations: Abortion should be declared illegal. There was a significant sentiment in opposition to this recommendation.

Program Recommendations: There should be no tax support for abortion. There should be no abortion for minors without parental consent.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals and families should make their feelings and attitudes known to their legislators at all levels on these matters.

Topic:

Family Crises

Issue:

2. Family violence

Policy Recommendations: Government should review existing programs and implement new inquiries as needed to determine cause and effects of family violence and the extent to which new legislation is necessary.

Program Recommendations: Provide studies, legislation, and program funding as required to allow for the intense individual involvement and assistance these families need. Educate the public to recognize and assist victims of domestic violence.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals should become aware of and sensitive to the needs of victims of domestic violence, and should attempt to elicit the support of their communities in meeting these needs.

Topic:

Family Crises

Issue:

3. Adolescent Pregnancy

Policy Recommendations: Government needs to raise awareness as to the enormity of the adolescent pregnancy problem, and to facilitate public and private efforts aimed at alleviating the problem.

Program Recommendations: Emphasis should be transferred from remedial to intensive preventive efforts. Provide family planning services and make parenting a secondary education requirement. A full range of supportive services should be made available to all teenage parents.

Strategy Recommendations: Encourage government, community and individual support for family life education from early childhood through mature parenthood.

Topic:

Education

Issue:

1. Family life education

Policy Recommendations: Family life education should not be left up to the schools. A majority also believed that sex education should not be taught in the schools.

Program Recommendations: Family life education programs, wherever taught, should include understanding of interpersonal and family relationships, sex education, family planning, and parenting skills.

Strategy Recommendations: The Secretary of Education should establish a committee to investigate anti-family trends in the schools. The removal of sex education from the school curriculum should be a high priority with parenting education considered as an alternative. The public should inform elected officials and the Secretary of Education of its views.

Topic:

Education

Issue:

2. Home-school relations

Policy Recommendations: Parents have the right and responsibility for the education of their children and the right to be involved in the decision making process as it relates to the total school environment.

Program Recommendations: Programs should be developed to provide greater parental influence in determining their children's school curriculum. Legislation should be instituted to provide prayer and bible reading in public schools.

Strategy Recommendations: Urge more parental involvement in the enactment of legislation affecting education.

Topic:

Education

Issue:

3. Quality Education

Policy Recommendations: Education should be designed to effectively prepare youth to be vocationally qualified and morally responsible citizens. The family must be considered an integral part of this process.

Program Recommendations: More resources should be allocated to increase the quality of education. Programs should be established to provide financial aid to parents with children attending private schools.

Strategy Recommendations: The public should inform elected officials of its views. Families and the community should encourage counseling and human resource services to enhance the quality of education of children.

Topic:

Community Institutions

Issue:

1. Informal supports -- self help groups

Policy Recommendations: Government should recognize the need for expanded counseling and support for (1) single parent families; (2) families who abuse their children; (3) parents of the handicapped; (4) poor and minority families; and (5) deinstitutionalized individuals. Also, it should be made possible for mothers to stay home and raise their children.

Program Recommendations: The public and private sectors should develop Family Community Centers to provide such counseling and support, and to provide homemakers, health aides and meals on wheels to support families at home. Also, develop family-oriented youth centers.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals and community groups should encourage local, state, and national leaders to assist informal support systems with tax incentives, technical assistance, and specific legislation fostering such groups.

Topic:

Community Institutions

Issue:

2. Religious and cultural organizations

Policy Recommendations: Greater emphasis should be placed on religious principles and practices, stressing attitudes of responsibility and self-discipline. Religious and cultural institutions should support the institution of marriage and be more involved in the recommendations made under Issue No. 1 of this Topic.

Program Recommendations: Religious and cultural institutions should play a greater part in the education of parents and children for family planning and family life.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals and families should encourage their religious and cultural organizations to play a greater role in fulfilling the policy and program recommendations listed above.

Topic:

Community Institutions

Issue:

3. Civic, fraternal, and professional organizations

Policy Recommendations: These organizations should develop a more family-centered orientation within their community.

Program Recommendations: These organizations should play a greater role in monitoring the impact of questionable government programs and questionable television programming. Further, they should support development of 24 hour a day/7 days a week emergency community services for families, to include referrals to all health and welfare services within the community.

Strategy Recommendations: Both individuals and civic, fraternal, and professional organizations should encourage local, state, and national leaders to scrutinize existing government programs and the influence of television programming as to their impact upon families. They should also cooperate with both the public and private sectors in providing emergency community services to families.

Topic:

Children and Parents

Issue:

1. Preparation for parenting

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of traditional educational systems, religious institutions and family service agencies to provide parenting education for individuals or families, who should be free to choose if and where they will receive such services.

Program Recommendations: Parent education programs should be set up through all the helping agencies to educate not only the preschool child and youth but the whole family. Government should provide technical and financial assistance toward the establishment of such programs.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals and families should make their opinions in these matters known to their legislators at all levels.

Topic:

Children and Parents

Issue:

2. Parent-child relations

Policy Recommendations: Family members should learn to recognize and understand the feelings and concerns of one another.

Program Recommendations: Programs should be enacted by government and private institutions to help parents understand the values of good parent-child relations and the dangers of poor ones.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals and parents should encourage development of programs which reinforce the values of good parent-child relations.

Topic:

Children and Parents

Issue:

3 - Responsible Parenting

Policy Recommendations: PARENTS SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE & RESPONSIBILITY OF THEIR CONTINUING ROLE IN THE LIVES OF THEIR CHILDREN.

Program Recommendations: PARENTS SHOULD ASSUME THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR TEACHING THEIR CHILDREN BASIC MORAL VALUES & RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT.

Strategy Recommendations: PARENTS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED & SUPPORTED TO FULFILL THESE RESPONSIBILITIES AS A PRIMARY PART OF THEIR LIVES.

Topic:

The Growth and Care of the Child, Youth, Adult and Aged

Issue:

No. 1: Definition of the Family -- Traditional/Biblical

Policy Recommendations: The Traditional definition of the family is a married couple with natural, adopted, or foster children. The Father is head of the household. Motherhood and homemaking are desirable and fulfilling. Cohabitation without marriage should be opposed.

Program Recommendations: Support legislation or other governmental action which would prevent broadening the traditional definition of the family.

Strategy Recommendations: Interested individuals and organizations should make their support of the policy and program recommendations above known to their legislators.

Topic:
The Growth and Care of the Child, Youth, Adult and Aged

Issue:
No. 2: Definition of the Family -- non-traditional

Policy Recommendations: There should be a non-rigid definition of the family.

Program Recommendations: Oppose legislation which limits the definition of the family for whatever purposes, for example, tax privileges.

Strategy Recommendations: Interested individuals and organizations should make their support of the policy and program recommendations above known to their legislators.

Topic:
The Growth and Care of the Child, Youth, Adult and Aged

Issue:
No. 3: Children and Older Adults

Policy Recommendations: (a) Child abuse laws should not infringe upon appropriate parental authority. (b) Older adults are potential sources of strength to the family.

Program Recommendations: (a)(1) Shift child abuse from criminal to civil code; (2) require reporting of child abuse by law. (b) Social services should be provided to families responsible for care of older adults.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals and families should encourage local, state, and national leaders to apply the considerable existing knowledge concerning both child abuse and services to older adults in policy formulation and program development.

Topic:
Special Challenges

Issue:
1. Single parent family

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the government to meet the special social and ecconomic needs of single parent families.

Program Recommendations: Government should sponsor specially designed programs to deal with such problems as: credit laws, day care centers, health insurance and tax benefits, and should establish family learning and research centers.

Strategy Recommendations: Communities, schools, and society in general should take positive action to assist these families to meet their special needs.

Topic:
Special Challenges

Issue:
2. Homosexuality

Policy Recommendations: The government should not recognize homosexuals as a family unit.

Program Recommendations:
1. Government should sponsor continuing research and educational programs on homosexuality.
2. Government should review laws pertaining to the adoption and/or rearing of children by homosexuals.

Strategy Recommendations:
1. The public should make an attempt to become aware of the special problems of homosexuals.
2. The public should inform their elected officials of their feelings on this issue.

Topic:
Special Challenges

Issue:
3. Government's role concerning handicapped persons and their families.

Policy Recommendations: Government should implement and expand existing laws and programs which deal with the special problems of the handicapped and their families.

Program Recommendations: Enforce legislation and provide funding for programs such as deinstitutionalization, local social service agencies, group home funding. family assistance, etc., so as to maximize the rights of the handicapped to achieve their full potential.

Strategy Recommendations: Educate the public to the needs and special problems of handicapped people and their families.
Encourage active participation by community groups.

Topic:
HEALTH

Issue:
1. DRUG & ALCOHOL ABUSE

Policy Recommendations: DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AS A WIDESPREAD NATIONAL PROBLEM.

Program Recommendations: MORE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO INFORM PARENTS, COMMUNITIES AND TEACHERS IN THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE, AS WELL AS HELPING THEM TO RECOGNIZE EARLY SIGNS.
THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD WORK WITHIN THE COMMUNITY-INCLUDING FAMILIES & SCHOOLS-to ESTABLISH MORE EFFECTIVE COUNSELING, REHABILITATION, AND PREVENTION SERVICES.

Strategy Recommendations: THE PUBLIC SHOULD INFORM ELECTED OFFICIALS OF ITS VIEWS ABOUT SUCH ISSUES AS: DRINKING age and hours, STRICTER LAWS TO DISCOURAGE DRUG TRAFFICING AND SALE OF DRUG PARAPHENALIA, AND ASSISTANCE TO CONFIRMED ALCOHOLICS AND DRUG ADDICTS.

Topic:
Health

Issue:
2. FAMILY PLANNING & MATERNAL HEALTH

Policy Recommendations: Individuals and families should have access to free and comprehensive information and services on birth control, family planning, and maternal health care.

Program Recommendations: Government programs should provide such free and comprehensive information and services. However there was significant sentiment expressed against abortion being used as a method of birth control.

Strategy Recommendations: The public should inform elected officials of its views on these matters.

Topic:
HEALTH

Issue:
3. Food and Nutrition

Policy Recommendations: Improve the quality and increase the quantity of food programs such as food stamps and the WIC program.

Program Recommendations: Implement a national program to develop good eating habits and to provide nutritionally balanced diets for all people.

Strategy Recommendations: Government agricultural and food availability programs should be reviewed and evaluated as to their impact on family needs.

Topic:
Poverty/Inadequate Income

Issue:
1. Two-income family.

Policy Recommendations: Income tax penalties for married couples should be eliminated. Increase and improve day care centers and programs.

Program Recommendations: Government should legislate tax incentives for single income families in order to encourage mothers to stay home. Government should change tax laws to relieve the unfair burden on middle income families. Existing laws and regulations on day care centers and other child care arrangements should be enforced to assure quality care.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals and families should inform elected officials of their views on these matters.

Topic:
Poverty/Inadequate Income

Issue:
2. Welfare Programs

Policy Recommendations: Economic welfare of families dependent upon public assistance should be improved. Benefit levels should be adequate to meet needs. AFDC policies should not require absence of husband from home. Welfare mothers should be able to stay home. Stop inflation.

Program Recommendations: Additional funding for welfare programs. Government should not limit food stamp purchases. Public assistance reform should offer a means to break the poverty cycle. Housing subsidies, food stamps, and Medicaid should continue. For legislative consideration: National Health Insurance and Family Living Wage. Food stamps should not be deducted from the base AFDC benefit.

Strategy Recommendations: U.S. Government should establish a commission to explore the feasibility of income maintenance for American families. The public should inform elected officials of its views on these matters.

Topic:
Poverty/Inadequate Income

Issue:
3. Unemployment

Policy Recommendations: More jobs needed for the disadvantaged, particularly unemployed teens and singles in the work force. Government should increase public service employment and provide tax incentives for employment of disadvantaged persons in the private sector.

Program Recommendations: Increase job training programs for the disadvantaged. Fund CETA youth programs. Implement the Humphrey-Hawkins ACT.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals and families should inform elected officials of their views on these matters.

Topic:
Housing

Issue:
Availability of adequate housing and available financing regardless of the economic status of the family.

Policy Recommendations: Policy should reflect that families have both a need and a right to adequate housing, either purchased or rented.

Program Recommendations: Special efforts must be made to improve housing in substandard areas. Government and industry should work together. Housing codes should be enforced and upheld. A definite plan should be designed to upgrade housing through new low cost units or rehabilitation of old properties.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals and families should inform their legislators that present policies should be studied and revised, and that subsidies be increased where indicated.

Topic:
Housing

Issue:
Emergency Shelter

Policy Recommendations: Emergency shelters should be provided for abused children, abused spouses, displaced homemakers, older adults and similarly affected persons.

Program Recommendations: Establish emergency shelters and/or day care centers to help alleviate the problems enumerated under above policy recommendation.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals and families should encourage local participation in advocating and establishing emergency shelter programs

	TOPICS		ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
11.	Child Care	1.	Availability of quality child (day) care.	
12.	Families and the Workplace	1.	Part-time, full-time, flexitime	
		2.	Increased participation in the workplace	
		3.	Equal pay	
13.	Law	1.	Spouse abuse	
		2.	Divorce/Separation	
		3.	Children and the law	
14.	Social Service	1.	Accountability/Availability	
15.	Media	1.	Media should exercise restraint and discretion in programming and publications.	
		2.	The government should consider the enactment of legislation in restraint of media deemed to violate vital public interest.	
		3.	Studies should be made of media influence on various segments of the population.	

NEW HAMPSHIRE *

Topic: Economics

Issue: How can the tax laws and retirement systems be restructured to avoid discrimination and provide incentives to families?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Allowable child care credit for expenses incurred in connection with charitable, civil, political or religious volunteer work,
2. Tax laws restructured to eliminate discrimination against married couples,
3. Incentives for multigenerational families,

4. Benefits may be accrued by homemakers who work periodically,
5. Social Security cease discrimination against homemakers and dual income families,
6. Elderly should not be penalized for working,
7. Tax laws restructured to reward successful family practices such as improving homes, educating children, holding jobs and staying married.

Topic: Economics

Issue: How can government and families work together to deal more effectively with inflation?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Conservation of natural resources,

2. Legislate incentives for the public and private sector to foster new resources for economic growth.

Program Recommendations:

1. Public education to encourage recycling,
2. Greater utilization of existing public resources, i.e. schools, public transportation, public buildings, recreational areas,
3. Develop consumer awareness.

Topic: Economics

Issue: How can we provide and encourage job training so that people can earn enough money to support their families and maintain economic independence?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Broader use of vocational schools and career training for adult learners,

2. Provide opportunities for flexible work schedules.

Program Recommendations:

1. Apprenticeship/career preparation,
2. Career awareness.

Topic: Public attitudes which affect families

Issue: In what manner might the media foster a more supportive view of family life?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Accentuate the strengths in family life, the positive aspects of healthy, inter-personal relationships,
2. Focus on how diverse families are succeeding in a variety of ways.

Program Recommendations:

1. Provide more programming encouraging to the traditional family.

Topic: Public attitudes which affect families

Issue: In what manner might institutions promote a sense of self worth in individual family members?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government should promote the attitude that self-development of the individual has validity, and provide support systems to make that possible.

Program Recommendations:

1. Government should support programs which foster the continuing education of homemakers.

Topic: Public attitudes which affect families

Issue: In what manner might public and private institutions promote a sense of community?

Topic: Housing

Issue: How can we make the opportunity to purchase homes more available to a broader spectrum of people, i.e. low income, moderate income, minority, handicapped, elderly and newly married?

Policy Recommendations:

1. People should not be discriminated against because of no prior credit experience.
2. Encourage families to work together in building their own homes.

Topic: Housing

Issue: How can we make more rental housing available to low income families and to families with children?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Abolish discrimination against families with children in all types of housing.

Program Recommendations:

1. Restoration and conversion of existing buildings into apartments,
2. Availability of adequate sized housing for families of varied sizes.

Topic: Environment that promotes family stability

Issue: How can we reduce the negative effects of drugs (and alcohol) on families?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Effectively utilize existing resources to provide information and services to families.

Program Recommendations:

1. Media programs,
2. Programs by existing organizations.

Topic: Environment that promotes family stability

Issue: How can communities and media help family members have realistic expectations for each other so that they can cope with the stresses of everyday life?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Promote volunteerism,
2. The trend of business, industry, and government to transfer families is destructive to the community, and should be reversed.

Program Recommendations:

1. Make conservation a family project,
2. Local communities should create programs that bring neighbors together.

Topic: Environment that promotes family stability

Issue: How to reduce the negative effects of violence on families by dealing with factors contributing to family violence such as alcohol (drugs), inadequate income, media, lack of affiliation with community groups, low self worth.

Policy Recommendations:

1. Effective utilization of existing resources to provide information and services to families,
2. Repeal spousal exception to rape.

Program Recommendations:

1. Include problem solving, communication skills and non-abusive discipline techniques in high school parent education curricula,
2. Provide for assignment of a guardian ad litem for children,
3. Provide shelters and support systems for victims of family violence.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Pursue legal reforms and public education programs when appropriate.

Topic: Improving the quality of family life

Issue: How can we improve the nurturing quality in family relationships and encourage intra-family communication, mutual respect, spiritual and community supports?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Formulate policies in specific legislation that will have a positive effect on individuals in the home.
2. Use radio, newspaper and television to allow organizations to express concerns about mutual respect.

Program Recommendations:

1. Support concepts 12, 17, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27 and 28 of Act S1808.

Topic: Improving the quality of family life

Issue: How to teach people to be more effective at parenting

Policy Recommendations:

1. Encourage community and state support of parent education.

Program Recommendations:

1. Encourage high schools to offer courses on parent education.
2. Increase the public visibility of one existing community agency charged with the responsibility of providing the public with information about parent education programs.
3. Establish a state-wide task force composed of individuals involved in parent education charged with the responsibility of examining the existing parenting needs and resources of New Hampshire families and making appropriate suggestions.

Topic: Improving the quality of family life

Issue: How can existing family resources be used more effectively?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Coordinate existing family resources.

Program Recommendations:

1. Eligible person act as coordinator, to help resources work together,
2. Develop comprehensive list of existing and available resources,

3. Make available a comprehensive list of existing resources.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Make coordinator responsible for keeping and disseminating list of available resources.

Topic: Plurality of family needs

Issue: How to help widowed persons with or without children.

Policy Recommendations:

1. Encourage churches to give support at times of need,
2. Encourage funeral directors to help widowed make contact with resources for assistance,
3. Simplify methods of access to financial assistance and other matters,
4. Encourage existing community resources to give support in times of need.

Topic: Plurality of family needs

Issue: How to meet the needs of families with handicapped members

Policy Recommendations:

1. Formulate policies and support systems to strengthen familes with handicapped,
2. Utilize existing resources to inform and give services,
3. Support concept 27 of S1808*,
4. Support legislation to improve exisiting state institutions for the handicapped specifically Mt. Hope and the Laconia State School.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Encourage volunteers to work to upgrade handicapped programs.

Strategy Recommendations:

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* This provision would grant an additional $1,000 tax exemption for married couples filing jointly during the year in which a child is either born or adopted. The exemption increases to $3,000 if the adopted child is handicapped, over the age of 3, or biracial. This exemption may be carried over to subsequent years if it exceeds the tax liability of the couple during the year of birth or adoption.

Topic: Plurality of family needs

Issue: How to meet the needs of families with diverse cultural and linquistic differences.

Topic: Alternate care

Issue: How can we provide families with supports to maintain family ties by minimizing institutionalization through use of "most-normal", least restrictive environment?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Provide financial incentives to families rather than institutions to care for elderly and handicapped.
2. Normalization of home environments for foster children, including legal rights.

Program Recommendations:

1. Respite care for handicapped and elderly,
2. In-home assistance i.e. home health care,
3. Day care for handicapped, elderly,
4. Developmental day care for children,
5. Work based child care,
6. Family home day care.

Topic: Integrity of the individual

Issue: In what manner might government and media discourage sex role stereotypes and promote sexual equality?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government should not enter into contractual arrangements with businesses or agencies which utilize sex role stereotypes to promote their product or service.
2. Support national effort to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

Topic: Integrity of the individual

Issue: In what manner might the government protect all individuals in the family?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Review and reform military policy regarding family separation.

Topic: Integrity of the individual

Issue: In what manner might the government promote a balanced and informed approach to the rights and responsibilities of parents and children?

Topic: All families

Issue: In what manner might government discourage discrimination against any family?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The Federal government should forbid, under any authority, funds being awarded to any organization, or any other entity, which advocates a particular family preference.
2. Government should encourage school systems to recognize the rights of the child no matter what his/her family structure.

~~Program Recommendations:~~

3. Government should not discriminate on the basis of sexual preference.

Topic: All families

Issue: In what manner might government foster support of multigenerational families?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government should provide tax relief for families who keep elderly members at home.

Topic: All Families

Issue: In what manner might government promote the well being of the single parent family?

Topic: Families and Educational Freedom

Issue: In what manner might government be involved in the moral and religious education of children and families?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government should redress the negative effects of secular humanism.

Topic: Families and Educational Freedom

Issue: In what manner might public and private institutions be involved in promoting, for every member of the family, the widest range of educational information and opportunities?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The Federal government should provide incentives for the teaching of marital skills, parenting skills, and child development in the schools.
2. States should insure the right to establish a procedure whereby parents and the community review textbooks and courses prior to a child's exposure to them in the public schools.

Program Recommendations:

1. The Federal government should encourage and support programs to assist parents, schools, organizations and other community groups in providing information about human sexualtiy.

Topic: Families and Educational Freedom

Issue: In what manner might government be involved in promoting the rearing of persons capable of making responsible decisions?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Encourage an approach to education that stresses critical analysis, experiential learning, problem solving, and consequential decision making.

Topic: Public Attitudes

Issue: How should media foster a more supportive view of family life?

Policy Recommendations:

That media offer alternative supports to the family down playing the Equal Rights Amendment

NEW YORK

FAMILIES AND THE ECONOMY

ISSUE 1

The present welfare and social insurance systems (e.g., Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, etc.) do not adequately meet the basic needs of families.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

Benefits should be established at the level determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics as necessary to meet the minimum standard of living, regionally adjusted. Income maintenance programs should not penalize intact families or those individuals wishing to marry.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Welfare systems should be federalized and should meet the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics minimum standards of living.
2. The federal system of welfare should be extended to unemployed, single individuals and couples.
3. Revise the eligibility and benefit schedules of social insurance systems to reflect the highest income years of an individual.
4. Establish programs to assist families in the management of their finances (e.g., family resource information centers, consumer education, and credit and budget counseling).

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

Until such time as the federalization of welfare occurs, the New York State delegation of the White House Conference has called upon the Governor and the New York State Legislature to enact legislation this year that calls for at least a 15% increase in statewide welfare payments.

ISSUE 2

Inequitable tax structure.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

The national taxing policy (as well as state and local) should be designed to ensure the economic viability of all families. Taxing policies should not discriminate against married or extended families.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Increase tax exemptions for dependents to reflect the cost of living. Deductions should be allowed for full or partial support of dependents such as the elderly, the handicapped, or children living in or outside the home.
2. Corporations are not paying their fair share. Tax loopholes which perpetuate this situation should be eliminated.
3. The child care deduction should more adequately reflect the cost of child care.

FAMILIES AND THE WORKPLACE

ISSUE 1

Discrimination in the workplace undermines family life in a number of destructive ways. The effects are cyclical and multigenerational. The denial of resources for basic needs (shelter, food, health, education, safety) and the denial of dignity to human beings by limiting goals and aspirations creates a negative self-image and produces stress, insecurity, family instability, domestic violence, family break-up and crime, thus significantly reducing national productivity. It is not a cost effective usage of human resources and potential.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.
2. Equal pay for comparable work.
3. Stronger enforcement mechanisms for existing anti-discrimination laws and regulations.
4. Creation of additional affirmative action laws and regulations.
5. Mandated affirmative action for both private and public employers.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

Laws:

1. Amend federal, state, local laws to require equal pay for comparable work.
2. Enact additional legislation to completely eliminate discrimination on the federal, state and local levels.
3. Strengthen enforcement mechanisms including stringent penalties for noncompliance, additional budgeting for enforcement agencies.

Training:

4. Tie incentives for job training/career development programs to long-range advancement results of trainees.

Right to Work:

5. Full enactment, expansion and implementation of Humphrey-Hawkins.

Work Conditions:

6. Enact statutes to prohibit intimidating working conditions, e.g., sexual/racial harassment.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Lobbying by all affected groups on all legislative levels.
2. Major educational/media campaign about the consequences of discrimination throughout society.
3. Major educational/media campaign to inform people of rights and remedies.
4. Encourage workers to make anti-discrimination and affirmative action issues priority matters for collective bargaining.
5. Create community-based networks for advocacy on issues of discrimination in the workplace.
6. Improve government role as collector and disseminator of information related to this issue.

ISSUE 2

As family structures have changed, adequate child care and care for other dependents become crucial. The family and the economy are greatly benefited by greater productivity, less absenteeism, better worker attitudes when working people do not suffer from anxiety about care of family members.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Provide a variety of child care options by government and business including at-home, infant, family, before-school, after-school, on-site, migrant and community-centered child care to accommodate all working schedules.
2. Develop alternatives to institutional care for other dependent family members so families may choose to keep those members in the home or community.
3. Regard the people who staff child and dependent care programs as professionals, upgrading training and salaries.
4. Transportation shall not be a barrier to access to services.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Extend tax credits, deductions and incentives for business and individuals.
2. Provide access to affordable child and dependent care for all working individuals by government mandate.
3. Reallocate federal, state and local funds so that families may choose to keep dependent family members at home instead of in institutions.
4. Include a transportation component in care programs.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Utilize the talents of senior citizens and unemployed youth in addition to required personnel.
2. Lobbying by affected groups at all levels.
3. Disseminate information about model care programs.
4. Fully utilize public buildings.
5. Urge workers to make this a priority contract issue.
6. Wage educational/media campaign about need for dependent care.

ISSUE 3

The quality of family life is negatively affected because of the inflexibility of work schedules; lack of benefits for some employees including migrant workers; unhealthy and dangerous work environments including migrant worker camps; insensitivity on part of employers to family priorities; and racial, sexual and physical harassment on the job.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Alternatives to include flextime, shared jobs, permanent part-time positions (paid at least at the same hourly rate as full-time positions, inclusive of benefits), home-based work with secure and adequate benefits including paid paternity and maternity leave and accommodations for family problems as well as adequate health and welfare benefits.
2. Employers must provide a safe, healthful working environment.
3. No penalties for refusal of transfers, promotions or working overtime.
4. Amend our laws including Social Security to reflect homemaker contributions; credit skills developed in family life as job skills; and expand training programs for reentry persons and displaced homemakers.
5. Provide career counseling, entry level training programs, advancement programs and tuition reimbursement.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Government should take a stronger lead in offering expanded educational opportunities, alternative work schedules as stated above and benefits like paternity/maternity leaves and develop incentives for the private sector to follow suit.
2. Enforce and strengthen the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) through additional staffing and resources, and extend its coverage to all workplaces.
3. Develop concepts of co-determination such as labor-management participation in policy decisions concerning the workplace.

4. Provide training programs for displaced homemakers and reentry workers.
5. Provide in-service training and staff development in the workplace for upward mobility.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Educate employers and employees concerning rights and responsibilities and identify the connection between working conditions and family life.
2. Encourage working people to make these specific issues and the general question of co-determination a priority matter for collective bargaining.
3. Lobbying on all legislative levels by affected groups.

ISSUE 3

The impact on families of the present level of unemployment is detrimental to a healthy and hopeful family life. In addition, the patterns of unemployment have a disproportionate and discriminatory impact on specific populations.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

It should be the policy of the federal government to implement the goal of full employment embodied in the Humphrey-Hawkins legislation.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Development of formulas for tax incentives for labor-intensive industries. Government aid and assistance to the private sector must consider the unemployed and the underemployed and regional needs before this aid or assistance is granted to discourage moves by industry that require relocation of families or result in widespread unemployment.
2. Creation of a national service corps to provide transitional work opportunity for those entering or re-entering the work force to respond to needs not met by other federal, state or local employment programs. Areas could include parks, recreation, conservation and dependent care. Such opportunity might also be provided for retirees.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

Policies and laws preventing job discrimination based on age, sex, race, disability, marital status, sexual preference or national origin should be enforced. The New York delegation strongly endorses affirmative action to achieve these goals.

HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES

ISSUE 1

There is a critical shortage of decent, affordable housing in America, in rural, urban and suburban communities, injuring families at all income levels.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The federal government must recognize that the alleviation of this crisis should be a major national priority.
2. States, local governments, private investors, and community organizations all should be encouraged and helped by the federal government to generate appropriate, new or rehabilitated housing in order to felieve this shortage.
3. Practices which restrict the supply of housing or fair access to housing, such as "red-lining," restrictive zoning, discrimination against minorities, single persons, handicapped persons, families with children and other groups, should be prohibited by all federal housing and financing programs.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. New construction should be encouraged by increased funding for federal mortgage guarantee programs and federal mortgage purchase programs such as Federal Housing Administration (FHA), Farm Home loan programs and federal national mortgage assistance.

2. Rehabilitation of deteriorating or abandoned housing stock should be encouraged by a massive federal rehabilitation loan and grant program. Such programs should be targeted at restoring or saving declining inner-city areas. Such programs should also aim at increasing the availability of rental and ownership housing in small town and rural areas. To achieve these ends, valid community organizations should be given a monitoring role to assure that the planning and conduct of such programs do not work to uproot and displace the families of the neighborhood.
3. Private sector investment and individual participation in rehabilitation programs should be encouraged by use of tax incentives, such as rapid depreciation allowances, tax abatements for investment in rehabilitated housing in targeted areas and the recognition of "sweat equity" as an investment in home or apartment ownership.
4. Programs such as "homesteading" of foreclosed or abandoned properties, which give ownership to the actual occupants and maintainers of otherwise nonutilized properties, should be expanded.
5. State and local governments should be permitted by the federal government to sell tax-exempt housing securities, provided that the proceeds are used to directly increase the supply of mortgage monies for neighborhoods with high proportion of low-income residents and a demonstrated relative difficulty in obtaining conventional mortgage financing.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

Form a coalition of community groups and our conference, together with all those who are self-interested in furthering construction and rehabilitation such as construction unions, contractors' associations, manufacturers and distributors of construction tools and of housing materials, builders' groups, etc. This coalition of suppliers and users of housing should press the legislators on both the federal and state levels to further our program for the shelter industry to provide jobs and homes and, thereby, benefit families.

ISSUE 2

There is a crisis today in the rental housing market (urban, suburban and rural) that severely impacts a broad spectrum of our society including the needs of special populations such as the handicapped and the elderly. What can be done about the rapid decline in the number of rental units due to the cost of new construction (resulting from rising interest rates and increased material and labor costs) and disinvestment of existing properties (due to inflation of operating expenses, declining return of investment in central properties and the inability of tenants to afford rents) and the forced conversion to co-op or condominium ownership of apartments?

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

It should be the policy of the federal government to promote affordable rental housing options for those who want or need it.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Federal Housing Administration (FHA) should redefine single family houses as "one-to-four family house."
2. FHA minimum property standards for housing rehabilitation should be more flexible.
3. Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) and the Department of Agriculture should coordinate their housing initiatives to improve the impact of their respective programs for shelter and ancillary services.
4. The Federal Reserve Bank should exclude rental property mortgages from the restrictive manipulation of bank interest rates. The federal government should subsidize the resulting gap in interest revenue to mortgage lenders.
5. HUD should increase funding of "special population" projects.
6. Federal tax incentives and funding programs should be made available to owners of existing rental properties to assure a reasonable return on investments.

7. HUD, Farm Home Loan Agency and HEW should increase funds available for the construction of multi-family projects.
8. Farm Home Loan Agency and HUD should intitiate programs that provide funds to build rural residential projects compatible with the size of the community.
9. Rules and regulations such as zoning or eligibility requirements affecting state and federally funded housing which restrict or inhibit extended families should be eliminated.

ISSUE 3

How can federal housing policies promote the inter-relationships of health, education, social well-being, transportation, economics, energy, and the environment to improve the quality of family life?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

A coordinating federal body shall:

1. Assess the effects of current federal programs and legislation in the areas of health, education, social welfare, economics, energy, transportation and the environment;
2. Develop inter-related programming, and
3. Oversee the implementation of these programs and their impact on the quality of family life.

These programs shall be designated to provide secure homes, to increase neighborhood support systems, to create flexible living arrangements, housing choices, improved transportation, and to meet the needs of special populations with the participation of the communities involved.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Provision of adequate sanitary facilities, water and energy sources, and accessibility to adequate health care facilities.
2. Reasonable access to and financing of quality educational facilities.

3. Support of neighborhood identifications; innovative use of physical characteristics such as space and light to enhance the aesthetic quality of housing; recognition of cultural differences; provision of day care centers in housing complexes and places of employment; recreational facilities.
4. Involvement of the community in planning and encouragement of continuing input.
5. Firm plan to realistically relate income levels to housing stock; incorporation of industry into planning housing to provide the high mobility of industry.
6. To consider the need for and effect of various means of transportation (mass transportation) on the access of families to workplaces, health care, recreational and shopping facilities.
7. To consider energy and environmental factors with respect to the availability, possible pollution effects and cost.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

The campaign for such a program to be taken up by citizen bodies, civic associations and community groups.

GROWING UP IN THE 80'S

ISSUE 1

Faced with the problems in families, what can the federal government do to facilitate family life education for children, youth and adults in schools and nonschool settings in America?

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

It should be the policy of the federal government to support the development and the implementation of programs in family life education in schools and nonschool settings for children, youth and adults.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION

Funds for the development and implementation of programs/curricula should be provided by the government. They should be developed, implemented and evaluated locally with input from parents, children, youth and community representatives, including teachers, clergy, and other professionals. Such programs should be holistic, recognizing human sexuality as part of family life and, at least, should include parenting education; self-esteem and decision-making skills; family law; human relations; caring and communication skills; medical and natural family planning; sex roles; functional and dysfunctional family relationships; and education for peer counseling.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

Work with the Department of Education and Department of Health and Human Services to identify and expand existing and potential funding sources and to identify existing and emerging coalitions for community awareness and education at the local level.

ISSUE 2

Child care is an essential service that must be financially supported by the federal government - not only as a support program to families of all economic and social levels, but as a service to prevent family breakdown. Child care includes group and family day care, Headstart and crucial services for children from infancy through the school years.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

That federal and state governments redirect and expand current funding for quality child care to provide family support and preventive services in order to prevent the removal of children from their own homes and into institutions and foster care settings.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION

Those charged with the provision and delivery of child care as a family support and preventive service will include, whenever possible, the following: early detection and crisis intervention services; day care, including infant day care, Headstart, family day care, before school and after school programs, special services for children at risk, counseling and medical services; and supportive services and assistance for parents above the welfare level remaining at home by choice with their children. Federally supported child care programs must meet basic standards of quality for staff training and adequate ratios of staff-to-children to guarantee sound development for the children entrusted to them.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Concerned individuals must continue to press for new legislation to provide funds which will ensure services advocated in this recommendation.
2. The federal government should provide tax incentives to employers who will underwrite the cost of employees' child care in whole or in part.
3. Family advocates should encourage changes in local zoning regulations which now prohibit the development of needed child care.
4. Encourage federal government, New York and other states to maximize eligibility for day care.

ISSUE 3

30% of our country's population is under 21 and because adolescents are frequently overlooked in federal and state legislation and program development, the federal government should address, as a priority, programs and legislation that offer support to adolescents and their families.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

It should be the policy of the government to further and protect the human and legal rights of the adolescents, especially in providing and supporting nurturing environments, quality education, vocational and career preparation and job opportunities, comprehensive health care services, including those provided to pregnant adolescents, and opportunities for the development of their creative and cultural potential.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Federal funding should be directed toward promoting comprehensive programs dealing with all aspects of adolescent development, needs and support systems.

2. There should be a federal review of the following: juvenile justice system (status offenders); drug programs; employment policies and child labor laws; health care programs.
3. Funding should be provided for follow-up of early intervention screening programs.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Enforcement of existing laws that protect the rights of children, e.g., Title IX.
2. Involvement of labor and business community in employment development and planning for adolescent training/apprenticeship programs, including tax incentives to help in the development of such programs.
3. Inclusion of adolescents in decision making, policy making and program development at all levels, with emphasis on the local level.

FAMILIES AND HEALTH

ISSUE 1

How can the health care system be restructured to achieve a better balance of health maintenance, prevention, early intervention and education versus treatment?

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

There should be increased emphasis on health maintenance, illness prevention, early intervention, education and outreach.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION

Funding for prevention, early intervention, education and outreach in both categorical and comprehensive programs should be based on the same principles as for treatment by amending Titles V, XVIII and XIX of the federal Social Security Act and other health-related programs, including funding for the full range of family planning and prenatal services for all segments of the population.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

Make above program recommendations known to members of the House and Senate Health Subcommittees, Finance Committees and to the Department of Health and Human Services.

ISSUE 2

Can we structure a payment system for health care to strengthen family health?

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

Federal policy should encourage all payors to regard the family as a unit for the payment of health care.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION

Within mental health and family counseling services, family units may be treated as the client. Reimbursement should be provided on this basis.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

Federal categorical programs should be amended to allow the pooling of funds when payments are to be made on this basis. Alternative means of funding preventive medicine and improved health delivery should be developed in spite of resistance by private interest groups involved in the business of the health industry including the American Medical Association.

ISSUE 3

Can we assure access to a minimum level of health care financially, psychologically and geographically?

Can we mitigate the cost of health care for the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The federal government should assure access to adequate health care regardless of financial, cultural, social or geographic barriers.
2. Government should alleviate the financial burden of major illness in the family.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Increase federal money by:
   a. Endorsing proposed 62% increase in National Health Service Corps;

b. Endorsing the unamended version of the Child Health Assurance Program; encouraging linkages for services with school systems including recognizing and utilizing schools as potential providers of health services;

c. Encouraging increased support of programs providing ambulatory services;

d. Proposing the development of legislation to support multi-lingual health and health education programs.

2. The federal government should promote hospice programs.

3. Catastrophic health insurance should be provided by the federal government; tax credits for families for primary and preventive care up to a set dollar limit per year should also be provided.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

Make sure program recommendations are known to members of the House and Senate Health Subcommittees, Finance Committees, and to the Department of Health and Human Services.

FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

ISSUE 1

The federal and state governments should provide additional financial support to families with special needs. Families with special needs are defined to include those families who care for a chronically physically or emotionally or developmentally disabled family member or a member at risk such as families with members detained or incarcerated by the criminal justice system; families with elderly members; single disabled and/or elderly persons; and families with members in community residential facilities.

POLICY AND PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The state and federal tax codes should be changed to permit heads of households who care for disabled or aged family members to claim them as "double" exemptions and to deduct the costs of maintaining that family member, including related housing costs.

2. The federal government should offer mortgage guarantees for families buying or modifying a home in which an aged or disabled family member will live.
3. The federal government should administer, through state and local governments, a program of housing subsidy for families with special needs who would be unable to provide adequate shelter in the home for a disabled, handicapped, or aged family member.
4. There should be no reduction in current benefit levels under the Supplemental Security Income Program, the Social Security Disability Insurance Program and other federal income support programs.
5. The federal government should change the income test for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income programs so that benefits are not lost when an individual begins to become economically productive.
6. Such programs as Medicaid and Medicare should be expanded to provide coverage for persons with chronic conditions to promote the ability of family members to remain at home.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

1. Individuals and representatives of groups promoting the interests of families with special needs should contact Congressmen, Senators, the White House, State legislators, and the Governor's office to apprise them of the recommendations of this conference. The Council on Children and Families staff will follow up with conference delegates to coordinate the dissemination of the recommendations of the conference to state and federal legislative and executive offices.

ISSUE 2

The federal and state governments should encourage the growth and expansion of comprehensive service systems responsive to the special needs of families. Families with special needs are defined to include those families who care for a chronically physically, emotionally, or developmentally disabled family member or a member at risk such as families with members detained or incarcerated by the criminal justice system; families with elderly members; single disabled and/or elderly persons; and families with members in community residential facilities.

POLICY AND PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Respite and transportation services represent the two largest gaps in service to New York families with special needs.
2. Government and voluntary service providers should offer respite and other services in the context of the whole family's needs.
3. Government and voluntary providers should adopt as a priority the use of both paid and volunteer staff from the populations serviced, especially elderly and disabled.
4. Respite services should be available to families with special needs without regard to income, funded through a new categorical program.
5. Respite and other services should cover a broad and flexible continuum that affords a maximum number of options for choice by the family.
6. The federal and state governments shall develop a comprehensive plan for the provision of transportation that assures access to services, employment and other community activities to members of families with special needs.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

1. Individuals and representatives of groups promoting the interests of families with special needs should contact Congressmen, Senators, the White House, and State Legislators to discuss the recommendations of the conference. The Council on Children and Families staff will follow up with conference delegates to coordinate the dissemination

of the recommendations of the conference to state and federal legislative and executive offices.

ISSUE 3

It should be the policy of state and federal governments to make families with special needs aware of their rights to participate fully in society, to make society more accepting of these families, and to adequately fund programs that provide families and their members with special needs with the maximum opportunity for full participation in society. Families with special needs are defined to include those families who care for a chronically physically, emotionally, or developmentally disabled family member or a member at risk; families with a member detained or incarcerated by the criminal justice system; families with elderly members; single disabled and/or elderly persons; and families with members in community residential facilities.

POLICY AND PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The federal and state governments should initiate a major program thrust administered at the local level that promotes positive changes in public attitudes toward greater acceptance of families and their family members with special needs.
2. The federal and state governments should provide additional funds to support advocacy, ombudsman and legal services programs which advise of and assure access to all facets of community life for families with special needs. Comprehensive service systems include special assistance to the establishment of group homes through community education and funding incentives.
3. The state and federal governments should increase and strengthen the role of planning and advocacy groups by requiring all state and federal plans to indicate the impact of those plans on families and specific efforts within those plans to promote the continuation of aged or disabled members in the home.

4. The federal government should implement such laws as PL94-142 and 95-602 by funding them up to the full level authorized by Congress and should insure that information and referral services mandated under Title XX of the Social Security Act are fully available to families with special needs.
5. The federal government should make a renewed effort to enforce Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, including any necessary increase in the staff of the Office of Civil Rights.
6. Alternatives to incarceration should be developed.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION

Individuals and representatives of groups promoting the interests of families with special needs should contact Congressmen, Senators, and the White House, State Legislators, and the Governor's office about the recommendations of the conference. The Council on Children and Families staff will follow up with conference delegates to coordinate the dissemination of the recommendations of the conference to state and federal legislative and executive offices.

FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS

ISSUE 1

Linking Community Resources to Schools: Given that families are not independent entities, in what ways may community agencies, organizations and citizens be linked to schools to support a holistic approach to family functioning?

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

Schools exist within broader communities. Isolating schools from their surrounding community fails to take advantage of the tremendous sources of support from neighborhood organizations such as religious institutions, social service and health agencies and civic organizations. It should be the policy of the federal government to facilitate linkages between and among community-based organizations and schools to provide supportive services to children and families.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION

In grants-in-aid, priority should be given to programs which focus on the development of linkages between community-based organizations and schools (such as community-based centers or schools offering social, cultural and educational programs, etc.) to children and families.

ISSUE 2

In what ways may parents be involved in the process of schooling for their children, thereby supporting their role as the primary educators of their children?

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

The role of parents in the education of their children is primary and absolutely essential. School personnel may be better able to provide quality educational services for all children if parents are informed and prepared to assist their children in school activities. Federal policies should be designed to encourage the provision of critical educational services to parents.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Where federal funds are received for compensatory education programs, the federal government should make provision for programs for parents which involve outreach, advocacy and training in reinforcing the educational process at home.
2. Support services should be provided to enhance the ability of parents to offer educational help to their children (e.g., child care, adult and continuing education).
3. Federal funding should be made available for parenting education programs for the parents of pre-schoolers.

4. Programs developed under federal funding should train parents to work with school systems to develop effective tools to measure how and to what extent schools are meeting the needs of the students.

ISSUE 3

All schools have a role to play in the transmission of values to our children. While public schools cannot and should not impose a specific moral code on their pupils, it is nonetheless imperative that schools help children learn how to respond to moral and ethical questions, recognizing the primary responsibility of parents in this process.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

Federal and state regulations should encourage the comprehensive study of our diverse cultural, racial and ethnic heritage, and how these shape our understanding of society's desired standards of behavior. Federal and state regulations should encourage the comprehensive study of persons with special needs to promote sensitivity and understanding.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

The federal government should:

1. Provide funds for teacher training and curriculum development for parenting education K through 12, focusing on a values clarifying methodology.
2. Provide funding for teacher preservice and in-service training and curriculum development in multicultural understanding and communications.
3. Develop guidelines which mandate the development of nonracist as well as nonsexist curriculum materials.

ETHNIC AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY

ISSUE 1

In what ways should public and private educational institutions and public and privately owned and/or operated communications media be mandated to protect value systems and project positive attitudes and corrective accurate information about the diverse racial, ethnic, cultural groups and women living in the United States?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Legislation and appropriations to require all states to provide bilingual and bicultural education for all non-English speaking groups.
2. Legislation and appropriations to groups whose language is in danger of falling out of usage or whose language must be reclaimed as part of the effort to perpetuate cultural integrity.
3. Schools should be required to design and implement programs and curricula that reflect the racial, ethnic and cultural diversity of the society as well as the special concerns of women.
4. It should be the policy of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to set aside air time (radio and TV) for the use of intra-cultural communication in communities where 1,000 or more people of a specific racial, ethnic or cultural group reside.
5. The government should be responsive to grievances related to media abuses against ethnic, racial, cultural groups or women.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. All states and local communities receiving federal funds earmarked for educational programs must be required to implement a bilingual, bicultural educational program in which English is taught as a second language and subject areas are taught in the native language of the student.
2. a) Enabling legislation to provide programs with academic credit for proficiency in a person's ancestral language.
   b) Federal funds should be made available for out-of-school, community-based, language intensive programs.
3. a) Active participation of affected groups in the design and content

of textbooks and curriculum to insure accurate portrayal of racial, ethnic, cultural groups and women.

b) Localities should be aided in developing educational life skills programs for persons newly arrived in the United States.

c) Training programs to sensitize teachers and all other educational personnel to ethnic, racial and cultural diversity as well as to the concerns of women.

4. Require F.C.C. to do a computer scan of available airways, frequencies and channels that could be reserved for use by ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women and to publicize this information.

5. F.C.C. should establish a responsive and effective grievance mechanism at the local level to provide redress of abuses committed by the media against ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women; this mechanism should include representation of ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women in its membership.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Direct report about program recommendation #1 (prior page) back to Conference delegates from the White House and Department of Education.
2. Inform all congressional delegates of conference recommendations of ethnic, racial and cultural educational issues as well as those of women.
3. Budget of Department of Education should be made available to follow-up staff for study prior to budget hearings.
4. Appointment of members from ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women to F.C.C. in decision making capacities.
5. Ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women should lobby for passage of bill authorizing F.C.C. to create more localized grievance machinery and to allocate funds.

ISSUE 2

In what ways can the public and private sectors contribute to full and humane employment with a just family wage tied to Bureau of Labor Statistics' figures for ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to insure affirmative action in public and private sectors.
2. Provide incentives to the private sector for upward mobility programs for members of ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women.
3. Recognition should be given to the different family patterns as they relate to different ethnic, racial and cultural lifestyles.
4. Jobs should be available to all adults and youth who wish to work without causing separation of extended families who choose to live together.
5. Amnesty should be granted for undocumented persons who are already residing in the United States.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. a) Existing employment affirmative action regulations should be strictly and vigorously enforced.
    b) Alternative sanctions to debarment for private employers found to be in noncompliance.
    c) Provision of adequate staff to enforce existing affirmative action regulations.
    d) All employers and subcontractors who receive federal, state and/or local funds, no matter how much money, must submit an affirmative action hiring plan.
2. Expand tax incentives to the private sector workplaces that provide upward mobility for members of ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women.

3. a) Employment programs should be developed which encourage the maintenance of extended family patterns.
   b) Extend the emancipated youth concept to include elderly family members. Neither adults nor families receiving aid should be penalized for living in an extended family.
4. Enact federal legislation to guarantee employment to all adults and youth who wish to work.
5. Update the registry date of Section 249 of the Immigration and Nationality Act on a date reasonably close to the date of the legislation that enacts amnesty for undocumented persons.
6. Strengthen already existing regulatory safety enforcement agencies, particularly stricter application of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Make public lists of debarred contractors so as to create public pressure.
2. Overseeing of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Department of Labor reorganization to determine which is responsible for compliance.
3. Passage of Equal Rights Amendment.
4. Inform all congressional legislators of the policy recommendations of the Conference on Families regarding the guarantee of full and humane employment for all who wish to work, and of those recommendations supporting amnesty for all undocumented persons residing in the United States.
5. Seek private sector support for tax incentive programs.

ISSUE 3

In what ways can the delivery of human service programs to families become more of a national priority and effectively meet the unique needs of ethnic, racial, cultural groups and of women?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Greater allocation of the national budget to social programs.
2. The government should support child care services consistent with the needs of ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women.
3. In the development of federal and state programs, policy makers and their staffs should be sensitive to the needs and concerns of ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women.
4. Human service professionals should develop a keener understanding of how family members may vary among ethnic, racial and cultural groups.
5. Participation of recipients of services on boards and staff of social service agencies.
6. Status of women in ethnic, racial and cultural families should receive special attention.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. a) Federal takeover of welfare.
    b) National comprehensive health program.
    c) Restoration of services to welfare recipients.
    d) Government to establish programs to minimize culture shock of newly arrived immigrants and refugees.
    e) Public aid to ethnic, racial and cultural group-sponsored agencies and programs as well as those of women.
2. a) Tax incentives to the private sector for providing alternative child care services whether in the workplace or the home.
    b) Restructure income tax regulations to provide for child care provided by extended family members.
    c) Providing of financial support to ethnic, racial and cultural community-defined child care programs.
3. Appropriations which would allow ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women to engage in training and sensitizing of public policy makers

and their staffs to their specific needs and aspirations.

4. Sensitize contact persons in human service programs to the unique needs of the ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women.
5. Public law mandating representation of ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women on boards and staffs of social service agencies commensurate with the populations being served.
6. a) Development of educational programs to upgrade the skills of ethnic, racial and cultural group women.
   b) Assistance programs to orient immigrant and refugee women in their new status.
   c) Better information dispersal systems concerning women's rights in the employment market, about obtaining credit and insurance, and about obtaining legal and social services.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Inform congressional delegations of all above policy and program recommendations.
2. Build an ethnic, racial, cultural and women's coalition and network with other progressive groups.
3. Develop intensive outreach programs for ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women.
4. Reduce military spending.
5. Promote and recognize the strengths and contributions of ethnic, racial, cultural groups and women.

CHANGING FAMILY LIFE

ISSUE 1

Whereas, the purpose of families is to provide an environment based on bonds of affection, mutual support, and commitment which will enable adults and/or children to grow and develop into creative and productive people, we ask recognition of the reality that families exist in a variety of forms.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

Those existing discriminatory policies be eliminated which include but are not limited to, housing, employment, contractual arrangements, health care, supportive services and income maintenance.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION

That the appropriate governmental agencies at all levels of government be directed to enforce this policy.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the White House Conference consider taking action to adopt the resolution and the recommendations herewith submitted.
2. That our duly elected officials at the federal, state and local levels be urged to introduce legislation which will enact into law the recommendations of the New York State Delegation.

ISSUE 2

Whereas, the quality of life of all family structures is important to our society;

Whereas, government at all levels exerts enormous influence on family structures, and,

Whereas, there are often unknown consequences of a variety of government policies and programs which, while they may not deal directly with the family, may have an impact on the family structure: All levels of government should be required to investigate, with sensitivity and a sense of responsibility, those consequences upon families and should be required to issue a family impact statement. The family impact statement should be issued prior to implementation of such programs or policy.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

1. The federal government should support family life education which includes acculturation, enrichment and living skills.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Recognizing that family stability is a national societal asset, the federal government should provide an ongoing resource base and

financial support to develop, within the community, support services necessary to improve the quality of life of all family structures.

2. Federal funding should be made available to the public and private sector to provide lifelong family programs in neighborhood-based resource networks. Wherever possible, these programs should be provided through existing institutional structures (e.g., schools, religious organizations, civic organizations and community groups).

   Typically, programs need to address such topics as communication, interpersonal relations, parenting skills, sexuality, values clarification and goal setting, vocational and career training, changing roles of men and women, and decision making.

3. For example, support services for day care, for dependent family members (including 24-hour day care), respite care, peer counseling, self-help groups, direct support for care of dependents at home (children and elderly), hospice, death awareness, bereaved support groups, displaced homemakers, support separation, hospitalization or incarceration.

ISSUE 3

The legal, judicial, and law enforcement systems must reflect and support the full diversity of American family life.

Introduction

The American family can fulfill its most important function--that of fostering human development and creativity--only in a society where choice exists for the family as a unit and for the individuals within that society. All programs for action that maximize choice and maintain a pluralistic society should be supported. Government's role must be to support individuals' and families' rights to make personal decisions. All individuals should have the right to determine their lives on the basis of their personal and religious beliefs; in a pluralistic society, individuals should have the right to determine their own lifestyles. Current, restrictive laws, which erode the family and undermine a pluralistic society, must be changed. This is a nation of many races, of many religions, and of many lifestyles. This Conference and our local, state, and national representatives should expand options for families, and should not limit the individual's right to choice.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The roles of women and men have changed significantly but current laws often do not reflect these changes:

1. Legal equality for women should be established under the constitution.
2. All individuals should continue to be protected under the law in their total freedom of choice about whether and/or when to have children.
3. Equal protection under the law should be guaranteed all individuals regardless of the kinds of families they choose to live within, including but not limited to nuclear families, extended families, blended families, same sex couples with and without children, and families who choose not to have children.
4. Juvenile law should be in the best interests of children.
5. Reform divorce and custody laws.
6. Laws, policies and regulations must be identified and remediated which create or pose special problems common to families with institutionalized members, especially parents (e.g., the effects of automatic divorce when imprisoned for certain offenses and length of sentences or when placed in psychiatric facilities or long-term care facilities).
7. Laws, policies and regulations should take into account the existence of the family throughout the entire process of institutionalization (i.e., from arrest through parole), and be alert to the need to protect family cohesiveness during periods when any family member is institutionalized for whatever cause, including extended hospitalization (e.g., by visitation, leaves, counseling to family members).

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.
2. Continuation of funding for exercise of the right to choose.
3. None
4. a) Establishing a National Council on Children's Rights.
   b) State-bystate re-evaluation of laws, including domestic relations, penal and educational law, and how they deal with juveniles, i.e., whether or not laws have resulted in outcomes which are in the best interest of children.
   c) In issues which deal with the best interests of children such as divorce, separation and child abuse, the mature minor's viewpoint should be solicited and taken into account in judicial decisions.
   d) A statute similar to the California Emancipation of Minors Act should be adopted in every state.
5. a) To establish a federal system whereby withholding of wages for child support from the first moment of a court order and travels with a person wherever he/she takes work in the country. Child support by the self-employed should be paid quarterly. The laws in formulation and interpretation should strive for equality of responsibility for child support regardless of gender which reflects the changing roles of men and women.
   b) The best interests of children are defined as contact with two parents. All family forms including the post-divorce family should be viewed as a reorganized family, and the legal rights of parents and children should be safeguarded by a presumption of co-legal and co-physical custody that assures the continued contact, guidance, love and affection of both parents, presumptive of an equality of parental benefits and responsibility.
   c) There must be legal recognition of the role of the non-income producing partner within the marriage at the time of dissolution

or divorce. The assumption by the court must be that both partners are equally entitled to the past material proceeds of the marriage.

d) Homemakers' rights. The federal government should recognize, monetarily, the value of the woman's contribution as homemaker (e.g., Social Security, Bill of Rights benefits for education). This contribution should be recognized in all divorce settlements.

6. a) Placement and custody arrangements are to be determined at time of institutionalization.

   b) The return of children to natural parent is to be determined in accordance with the best interests of the child.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Encouragement of ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment by all states.
2. White House involvement in supporting and encouraging ratification.
3. Effecting changes in the administration of programs which are federally funded to convey and enforce existing nondiscrimination regulations.
4. Access to resources for reproductive choice on the community level.

FAMILIES IN STRESS AND CRISIS

ISSUE 1

We urge government to give the highest priority to preventive services to avoid stress, violence and crisis, in order to enhance the quality of life in all types of families.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

It should be the policy of government to budget more monies than were heretofore allocated for preventive services and research:

1. To provide for the development and implementation of education in family life, parenting, sex roles, sexuality and intergenerational relationships.

2. To provide for the development of media campaigns that promote greater public awareness of and responsibility for prevention of family stress, crisis and violence.
3. To remove status offenses from the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.
4. To encourage the development of alternatives to out-of-home care; for children for whom placement is appropriate and in their best interests, the federal government should be urged to adopt and implement the use of the "Standards of Foster Care and Adoption" (for institutional group homes and foster families and adoptive placements) as established by the Child Welfare League of America to ensure that all children receive quality care.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend that government:

1. Support the appropriation of funds for the continuation of the National Center for Child Abuse and Neglect and the National Center for Violence in the Family.
2. Provide funds so that National Institute of Mental Health, National Institute for Child Health and Development, National Institute of Education, Administration for Children, Youth and Families and other appropriate agencies can support preventive programs and research on the effectiveness of such programs and that the Department of Education stimulate, through funding incentives, state and local government participation in the development of expanded curriculum as it applies to policy recommendation #2.
3. Congress should enact HR 3434.
4. The Federal Communications Commission should address itself to correcting negative influences on children and families by establishing standards for the presentation of such things as violence, sex, race and family stereotypes.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Public Awareness: Delegates of the Families in Stress workshop are prepared to present documentation of the cost savings to society derived through preventive services as opposed to the cost of long-term treatment of the victims of stress, violence and crisis. These benefits are measurable and can be exhibited by actual witnesses and public testimony through media and other public forums by recipients of preventive services.

B. Public Participation: In order to implement programs suggested by the workshop, broad-based community organization and mobilization should be undertaken for letter-writing campaigns, petitioning and lobbying.

C. Government Accountability: Existing organizations (e.g., League of Women Voters) should promote greater public awareness of legislative and voting records and executive initiatives in support of programs proposed to address stress, violence and crisis in all types of families.

D. Advocacy: Foundations with humanitarian missions and purposes should be approached to serve and support advocacy and ombudsmanship for service delivery to members of all types of families experiencing stress, violence and crisis.

ISSUE 2

We urge the government to give highest priority to the development and implementation of comprehensive treatment services and programs for the purpose of alleviating stress, violence and crisis in all types of families.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

It should be the policy of government to:

1. Promote the development and implementation of family multi-service centers to provide convenient, comprehensive and affordable 24-hour service for all types of families.

2. Provide community crisis shelters for all victims of domestic violence with supportive and rehabilitative services provided in collaboration with other agencies in the community.
3. Mandate, in funding programs, interagency coordination of services to families of all types.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend that the government:

1. Based on the community health center model, support these family multi-service centers to accommodate all members of all types of families in order to combat stress, violence and crisis.
2. Encourage the implementation of a multi-disciplinary team approach to deal with all victims of family stress, violence and crisis.
3. Mandate the reporting of all forms of family abuse, thereby extending the existing child abuse reporting requirements.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Public Awareness: Delegates of the Families in Stress workshop are prepared to present documentation of the cost savings to society derived through preventive services as opposed to the cost of long-term treatment of the victims of stress, violence and crisis. These benefits are measurable and can be exhibited by actual witnesses and public testimony through media and other public forums by recipients of preventive services.

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D. Advocacy: Foundations with humanitarian missions and purposes should be approached to serve and support advocacy and ombudsmanship for service delivery to members of all types of families experiencing stress, violence and crisis.

ISSUE 3

We urge government to effectively monitor sources of family stress and help detect stress-related problems once they have arisen.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

It should be the policy of government:

1. To develop accurate and current data relating to stress and those circumstances leading to crisis and violence in families of all types.
2. To develop a workable process for analyzing legislation to determine its impact on all types of families.
3. To support screening and training of professionals and aides to deal with family stress, violence and crisis and particularly to insure the effective utilization of funds already allocated for such purposes.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend that government:

1. Collect data directly from populations affected by stress, violence and crisis, with due regard for the right to privacy.
2. Consider the NYS Site Environment Quality Review Act as a model for review of new legislation for its impact on all types of families.
3. Provide incentives to encourage business and industry to participate in programs to reduce stress among their employees (c.f., N.Y.S. CSEA Employee Assistance Program). Government should also develop and participate in such programs for its own employees.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Public Awareness: Delegates of the Families in Stress workshop are prepared to present documentation of the cost savings to society derived through preventive services as opposed to the cost of long-term treatment of the victims of stress, violence and crisis. These benefits are measurable and can be exhibited by actual witnesses and public testimony through media and other public forums by recipients of preventive services.

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* NORTH CAROLINA

Topic: Impacts of Energy Costs, Transportation and Interest Rates on Families

Issue: How can families cope with the soaring costs of energy in the 1980s?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the immediate goal of the Carter administration to establish a comprehensive energy policy for the United States by the end of the fiscal year of 1980.
2. The government should strive to maximize the extraction and utilization of domestic sources of energy.
3. It should be the policy of governments to encourage the conservation of energy.
4. It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage the development of alternative sources of energy.
5. It should be the policy of the federal government to ensure the safe operations of nuclear power plants.

Program Recommendations:

1. The government should initiate a program for the rationing of gasoline for vehicles.
2. The government should provide incentives to the private sector to encourage the incorporation of teaching conservation at all levels.
3. A program of the purchase of oil at the rate of two million barrels per day from Mexico should be inaugurated.
4. A program of tax benefits comparable to those now available to the oil industry should be implemented for research and development by the private sector of alternative energy sources.
5. A program should be designed to encourage communities to develop their own energy conservation plans.
6. Award federal research contracts to universities, "think tanks" and engineering research companies concerning regulatory policies for fail-safe operation of nuclear reactors, as well as funding for technological development to achieve fail-safe operation and the disposal of wastes.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Provide an investment tax credit of 10% for capital investment designed to develop alternative sources of energy.
2. Establish educational programs through the media to inform the public on the cost of producing energy and how to use it more efficiently.
3. Reduce mail deliveries to five days per week.
4. Give tax incentives to families who shift their energy use to sources consistent with the national interest.
5. Each congressman and senator should be contacted by his/her constituents asking that relentless pressure be applied to other members of Congress until they are willing to establish a comprehensive energy policy.
6. Congress should implement accelerated depreciation on mining extraction and oil refining equipment.
7. Repeal grain acreage allotment in order that sufficient grain can be produced for conversion to gasohol.

Topic: Impacts of Energy Costs, Transportation and Interest Rates on Families

Issue: How can families cope with high interest costs during the 1980s?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to balance the budget by 1981, and to maintain a balanced budget thereafter so much as it is in the national interest.
2. It should be the policy of governments to establish and maintain a firmly defined margin between interest earned and interest charged.
3. It should be a policy to educate families in the prudent use of credit and budgets.

Program Recommendations:

1. Amend the IRS regulations to allow taxpayers who take the standard deductions to itemize their charitable contributions.
2. Encourage local businesses to participate in community services through tax incentives.
3. Bring about a balance of trade.
4. Amend Regulation Q to allow interest earned on small savings accounts to reflect current interest rates.
5. Amend the state laws to eliminate the North Carolina intangibles tax.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Task Force members and delegates should contact the members of the North Carolina General Assembly to work for the repeal of the intangibles tax.
2. Establish a method of exchange of United States' goods and services to effect a trade balance.
3. Amend tax laws to encourage local businesses to participate in community services.
4. Mandate Congress to accept a real economic growth rate in the GNP of 2% to 3%, to accept an inflation rate of no more than the growth rate and to effect necessary restraints to accomplish these ends.

Issue: How can families cope with the cost and availability of transportation in the 1980s?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the Federal Highway Administration to give top priority to cost efficient mass transportation of people from place of residence to place of work.
2. It should be the policy of the federal government to require vehicles to be more efficient and to encourage development of alternative sources of power to petroleum products.
3. It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage the development of alternative sources to power engines.

Program Recommendations:

1. The federal government should develop a program which provides for the construction of mass transit rail and the purchase and development of appropriate motor carrier equipment (e.g., buses and minibuses).
2. There should be a program to educate the public to use the most efficient and economical means of transportation.
3. Governments and funded programs at all levels must prove any expenditure for vehicles to be cost effective.
4. There should be a program to encourage local communities to develop alternative methods of transportation which would be cost effective.
5. A program to encourage the development of alternative energy sources for engines and technology and design of a more efficient vehicle should be implemented.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Utilize the media, including public service announcements, to inform citizens of availability of mass transportation and to encourage its use.
2. Citizens should call upon their congressmen and highway officials, both state and federal, to take steps to inaugurate a new direction toward planning, construction and implementing mass transit.
3. Task Force members and delegates to the White House Conference on Families should contact key leaders in Congress to ensure that tax credits, incentives, etc., are provided to industry for the development of efficient vehicles.

Topic: The Responsiveness and Accountability of Government to Families

Issue: How can the Equal Rights Amendment be secured in order that the rights of the individual be assured and thereby the family strengthened?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal, state and local governments to encourage the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment as the 27th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Program Recommendations:

1. It is recommended that the federal, state and local governments conduct educational, unbiased, awareness programs on the Equal Rights Amendment as it relates to families.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Individuals and/or organizations request government representatives to institute educational, unbiased, awareness programs to inform the public as to the legal and social implications of the Equal Rights Amendment and its impact on families.
2. Concerned citizens should be urged to contact candidates for the Senate and the House in the General Assembly urging them to support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. After their election, they should be urged to vote for its ratification pointing out to them the impact the Equal Rights Amendment has for families, as well as individuals.

Topic: The Responsiveness and Accountability of Government to Families

Issue: In what ways can government be responsive to family needs?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government, at every level, should better respond to local family needs as determined by local community.
2. Government funding and programming should be reviewed to avoid duplication and to assure quality control.
3. Reallocate federal funding, allowing local monies to remain and be programmed at local levels.
4. Basic programming should take into account: (a) individuals, (b) individuals as members of a family and (c) uniqueness of the family.

Program Recommendations:

1. Exercise more discretion in funding with more representative community control on program development/expenditures by expanding community involvement.
2. Use language that the average person understands.
3. Clearly designate "Family" when it is affected by legislation (e.g., single, unmarried parents, husband/wife/children).

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Government representatives (all levels) meet with White House Conference Task Force from various communities.
2. Open regional meetings with legislators and family agencies to further discuss and implement our Task Force recommendations.
3. Local White House Conference on Families delegates share with local media, organizations, etc., their experience.

4.a. Organize citizens involvement groups to continually participate in programs and policies affecting families.

  b. Citizens involvement groups are to be functionally independent of agencies, organizations and institutions they will impact.

  c. Citizens involvement groups shall have representatives across socio-economic strata, residential areas, business, religious, etc.

Topic: The Responsiveness and Accountability of Government to Families

Issue: Because the American family is entitled to an accounting by government, in what forms should this accountability be implemented?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of government at all levels to communicate with and be responsive to the ongoing opinion of the American public.
2. It should be the policy of government and elected officials to maintain accessibility to the public.

Program Recommendations:

1. It should be the responsibility of government to initiate and maintain open communication with the public.

2. These communication efforts should be directed in such a way as to ensure the greatest possible participation by the public.
3. Whenever possible, government action affecting families should be preceded by a public hearing to be held at times and places convenient to all socio-economic strata.
4. The White House Conference on Families shall encourage the further development and participation in "citizens' lobbies."

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The state Task Force and the Governor shall inform the families of North Carolina of the recommendations that will be submitted to the White House Conference on Families.
2. All elected representatives of North Carolina shall be provided with the North Carolina Task Force recommendations to the White House Conference on Families.
3. The resources of the Governor's Office of Citizen Affairs, in cooperation with the White House Conference on Families Task Force, shall be made available to foster a state-wide network of local Task Forces to function as an interface between families and government representatives.

Topic: Chronic Illness and Disability

Issue: In what ways can government assist families with problems of chronic illness and disability?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to establish nationwide aid network for those chronically disabled and the members of their families.
2. The federal government should provide funding for developing local hospice programs and legislate third party reimbursement for hospice care.
3. That the federal government should develop policies and guidelines that will assist families with the problems of chronic illness and disability.

Program Recommendations:

1. The federal government should direct the Department of HHS to establish a clearing bureau for long term aid to those chronically disabled and their families.

2.a. HHS through the Office of Families should ensure that all government health programs (i.e., Medicare and Medicaid), private health programs (i.e., Health Maintenance Organizations, etc.) and third party insurers develop guidelines for inclusion of hospice care within their benefits structures.

b. Included in the development of hospice programs there should be policies and guidelines that provide for follow-up to bereaved families as a preventive health care activity.

3.a. Restructure the guidelines of Medicare to ensure that families are not financially obliterated by chronic illness and disability.

b. The federal government should provide financial benefits for families affected by chronic illness and disability.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. A registry should be established and maintained in SMSAs for those willing to donate or lend items that can be used for the chronically disabled. Such registry can be referred to when needs arise.
2. A pool of volunteers whose talents or abilities can aid the chronically disabled can be kept. To encourage such voluntary aid, Congress should enact an incentive program of income tax credits per hours volunteered. Special tax incentives should be researched for long-term volunteers or those with long records of service to encourage staying with such a program.
    a. Seek the support of the insurers, labor, management, and the consumers to fully maximize reimbursement. (Adequate reimbursement for third party payers is crucial to the survival of the hospice program.)
    b. Educate using all forms of media about the advantages of hospice care. Provide factual data and experiential accounts by hospice families to demonstrate:
        1. the adequacy and effectiveness of the assistance provided by the hospice team, and
        2. that community volunteers do become the extended family for hospice families that are far away from loved ones in a time of crisis.
3. The public should be encouraged to appear at public hearings, conduct letter-writing campaigns, to lobby with HHS, Congress, AMA and consumer groups in order to change existing benefits and programs to the broader coverage desired.

Topic: Alcoholism

Issue: In what ways can government assist families when a family member is an alcoholic?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The federal government should develop more long-term and comprehensive policies and guidelines that will assist families with the problems incurred when a family member is an alcohol abuser.

Program Recommendations:

1. The federal and state governments should provide funds for establishing and maintaining rehabilitation centers and counseling services for families of alcoholics.
2. The government at all levels should financially support mental health and criminal justice treatment programs in the area of alcohol abuse.
3. Emphasize the family-centered approach as a primary means of rehabilitating alcohol abusers.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Mechanisms need to be established whereby community-based programs, consumer groups, parent groups, etc. provide relevant information about alcohol abuse and lobby for commitment to raise the priority of alcoholism services with the Department of HHS, Congress, state legislatures, etc.
2. Communities should have referral process in order to establish the recovering alcoholic to a positive place in society. (Employment, housing, etc.)
3. Establish support groups and a referral network to give assistance to the parents, friends, or relatives of the alcohol abuser.

Topic: Drug Abuse

Issue: In what ways can families be assisted when a family member is an alcoholic or drug abuser?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The federal government should develop more long-term and comprehensive policies and guidelines that will assist families with the problems incurred when a family member is a drug abuser.
2. In an effort to combat the debilitating effects of alcoholism and drug abuse on families, the Office of Families should coordinate with NIAAA and NIDA the development of a comprehensive substance abuse prevention program.
3. Federal, state and local governments and private support groups should give top priority to early prevention through budget support and programming, especially in identifying and helping families in states of high risk to alcohol and drug abuse.
4. That still greater emphasis be placed on eradication of illicit drug trafficing as a top priority federal, state and local law enforcement matter.

Program Recommendations:

1. The federal and state governments should provide funds for establishing and maintaining rehabilitation centers and counseling services for families of drug abusers.
2. The government at all levels should financially support mental health programs in the area of drug abuse.
3. Emphasize the family-centered approach as a primary means of rehabilitating drug abusers.
4. Efforts should be made to combine the existing drug and alcoholism prevention programs into "substance abuse prevention programs."
5. Funding for prevention programs should be independent of treatment and intervention funding.

Strategy Recommendations:

1.a. A comprehensive study of all drug legislation should be implemented.

  b. Mechanism needs to be established whereby community-based programs, consumer groups, parent groups, etc. provide relevant information about drug abuse and lobby for commitment to raise the priority of drug abuse services with the Department of HHS, Congress, state legislatures, etc.

  c. Communities should have referral process in order to establish the ex-abuser to a positive place in society. (Employment, housing, etc.)

  d. Establish support groups and a referral network to give assistance to the parents, friends, or relatives of the drug abuser, including those families of incarcerated drug abusers.

5. Develop and implement mental health curriculum in K-12.

6. Use mass media to educate and inform families regarding:
    a. the promotion of positive mental health values and attitudes
    b. the consequences of the use and abuse of alcohol and drugs

7. Lobby with HHS to ensure that the Office on Families provide funding and technical assistance for the implementation of substance abuse prevention programs in every state and in local communities.

8. Conduct a study of the tax policies on alcoholic beverages in order to explore the possibilities of providing an ongoing financial base for substance abuse programming.

Topic: Availability and Cost of Adequate Housing

Issue: In what ways can alternatives in energy-efficient housing which meets physical, social and psychological needs be made available to every family?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of all levels of government to examine all current and pending housing legislation to determine the impact of such legislation on families in rural and urban areas.
2. It should be the policy of the federal government to expand housing subsidy programs and private sector incentives for the provision of more moderately-priced, energy-efficient housing for renting and buying.

Program Recommendations:

1. Increase funding, through legislation, for subsidized housing loans and incentives to the private sector for building family housing.
2. Establish Family Impact Study groups as a permanent part of the housing legislative process.
3. Explore the development of alternative forms of emergency housing for family members who are the victims of crises, such as family violence, natural disaster and eviction.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals are urged to write their federal and state legislators to support the expansion of housing subsidies.
2. Family Impact Study groups can solicit community input from residents, lay leaders and the like for statements regarding the feasibility of current and pending housing legislation.
3. Encourage university-based research on the impact of housing on families and communities with implications of this research being made available to lawmakers, educators, community officials, extension services and the like.

Topic: Cost of Food

Issue: Recognizing that food is a basic requirement for human life, how can the cost of food be regulated such that all families receive adequate nutrition?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the state government to remove the sales tax on food.
2. It should be the policy of county, state and federal governments to assure the availability of food programs to aid in the supplementation of diets of infants, young children, pregnant and nursing women and all others in need of food supplementation.

Program Recommendations:

1. Pass legislation placing food on the list of non-taxable items.
2. Expand the Women's Infants Children Program (WIC) to include all 100 counties.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals are urged to write their state legislators encouraging them to repeal the sales tax on food.
2. Counties without the WIC program should be offered incentives to initiate this program.
3. Two counties should be selected to pilot a model of coordination of family nutrition programs.
4. All levels of government should be encouraged to initiate and/or continue supplemental food programs.

Topic: Cost of Clothing

Issue: In what ways can families be assisted in the acquisition of adequate clothing necessary for physical protection, participation in activities and the enhancement of self-esteem?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The government shall, in all of its programs for families, recognize clothing as a basic human need (as it does food and shelter).

Program Recommendations:

1. There should be an adequate level of income to meet the basic needs of families (food, clothing and shelter).

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Conference follow-up staff should examine recommendations from other White House Conferences (on nutrition, aging, etc.) for implications which can be used to establish clothing needs in relationship to family development.
2. Existing community agencies can increase the availability of clothing alternatives (home sewing skills, home maintenance skills, clothing cooperatives, clothing consumer education, community-family clothing exchanges) through assistance from state and county level governments.

Topic: Social and Economic Problems of the Adjustment of Family Members in Retirement

Issue: What steps should be taken to assist older family members to adjust to retirement?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The White House Conference should recommend that a national effort be made to encourage and educate all persons, especially those facing retirement to perceive it as a process, not an event.
2. Steps should be taken to assist retired persons, if they like, to be retrained and counseled for alternative occupations after retirement.

Program Recommendations:

1. The White House Conference should encourage all organizations and agencies serving the older person to participate in this effort to reinterpret and reevaluate retirement. All support should be given to the Federal Act on Older Families and to the National Family Network.
2. To carry out this policy, efforts should be organized to persuade the Congress to appropriate funds for this purpose, to encourage national organizations and agencies serving older persons to take leadership, and to enlist educational agencies and resources in this program of reeducation and indoctrination.

Strategy Recommendations:

1.a. The four television networks should be asked to produce "soap opera" type programs that show how families with retired members have achieved good adjustment.

b. A national, nonpartisan organization, e.g., the National Association of Retired Persons, could develop a model program for the education of clientels and populations with this rational interpretation of and attitude toward retirement.

c. Ask a national, nonpartisan organization, e.g., the National Association of Retired Persons, to organize the effort to persuade the Congress to pass the appropriate legislation.

d. Community colleges, technical institutes, and similar public and private vocational training agencies should be asked to implement the counseling and training activities.

e. Associations of retired persons, e.g., the National Association of Retired Teachers, should be asked to help implement this program.

f. Professional organizations and labor unions should also be enlisted to establish and implement counseling for their retired members who are having difficulties in adjusting to retirement.

Topic: Social and Economic Problems of the Adjustment of Older Family Members in Retirement

Issue: What steps should be taken to make Social Security income, where it is the major source, adequate to the needs of families with retired members, especially those who have been retired five or more years?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The White House Conference should recommend that limitations on earnings of persons 65-72 years of age should be removed from the Social Security Act.
2. The White House Conference should recommend that all workers without exception be covered by Social Security and provisions made to equitably cover the homemaker.

Program Recommendations:

1. The Congress should be encouraged or pressured to pass the appropriate amendment to the Social Security Act.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The White House Conference should ask a national, nonpartisan organization, e.g., the National Association of Retired Persons or the AFL-CIO, to undertake two major actions:
    - a. to develop a plan for persuading the Congress to pass the appropriate amendment to the Social Security Act
    - b. to implement this strategy nationwide with whatever support and assistance it can muster.

Topic: Social and Economic Problems of the Adjustment of Older Family Members in Retirement

Issue: What steps should be taken to assist families with retired members whose fixed incomes have become inadequate because of inflation?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The Congress should appropriate funds for supplementary income for persons who retired five or more years ago and whose Social Security benefits are now inadequate to meet their needs.
2. Steps should be taken to provide part-time work for retired persons who can and want to work to supplement fixed retirement incomes.

Program Recommendations:

1. Steps should be taken by a national nonpartisan organization, e.g., the National Association of Retired Persons, to encourage or pressure Congress to pass the appropriate legislation.
2. Generate political encouragement or pressure on Congress to appropriate funds to achieve this end.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The first step in this program would be development of a public relations and education effort to enlist the support of citizens in all sections of the country.
2. Ask the public employment service as well as private employment agencies to increase their efforts to find part-time work for retired workers with fixed and inadequate retirement incomes.

Topic: Employment Competencies and Jobs and the Family

Issue: Financial Planning Skills

What can local, state and federal programs do to ensure that citizens have access to programs to develop financial planning skills?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Financial planning skills should be included as a required component in the various curricula plans of public and private educational institutions.

2. Financial planning skills should be offered as program options by supportive services/agencies involved in any aspect of family maintenance. (i.e., social services, advocacy groups, private associations, Extension Service)
3. Financial planning skills should be offered as motivational programs for all persons affiliated with a business or industry.

Program Recommendations:

1. Add to the state, legislation which defines the required educational curriculum to include financial planning skills.
2. Employ qualified teachers to teach financial planning skills.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Educational institutions should review the status of existing programs and/or courses, kindergarten through higher education, which offer instruction in financial planning skills and reorganize and expand to provide comprehensive coverage of the area.
2. Private businesses, agencies and industries should be offered tax incentives for including information about financial planning skills in any media commercials/advertisements and/or other offerings to the public.

Topic: Employment Competencies and Jobs and the Family

Issue: Availability of Good Jobs

What role should government, business, industry and public and private agencies assume to assure that all citizens have access to jobs to which they aspire and for which they have or are willing to develop the skills/competencies to attain?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government employment policies must recognize and be responsive to the conflicting demands between work and various family role functions.
2. Government contracts and grants should be awarded only to businesses which demonstrate successful equal opportunity policies, on-the-job training and mobility opportunities, and which pay average or above average wages for the state.
3. Private employers should be encouraged to change policies which might interfere with positive family relationships.

Program Recommendations:

1. Legislation should be proposed that would require that impacts or potential impacts of decisions and policies of significant employers on the community and its families be assessed and publicized. The requirement would assist state and local groups and individuals in making informed and long-range plans and development decisions, and provide a greater sense of accountability of businesses to the community around them.
2. Government agencies should work with industry and business, and with citizens and employees, to establish legislation and regional criteria concerning availability of jobs, and then to implement and evaluate programs providing good jobs and job mobility based on the needs, aspirations, and skills of citizens, targeting populations with high levels of unemployment.

3. The Department of Education should examine current programs for job skills training to determine effectiveness and establish time frames for modifying programs not meeting effectiveness criteria.
4. Legislation to encourage the private sector to provide jobs that are supportive of families needs should be studied and carefully developed with participation of representatives of business, labor, unemployed people, and government, and introduced in Congress with the support of the administration and the White House Conference on Families. Stable jobs, jobs that teach skills, are not "make work," and jobs that pay adequate wages for supporting families, offer greater potential for reducing welfare dependency, crime recidivism, and other problems associated with poverty. The availability of good jobs would assist families who struggle financially. Thus, the government would be supporting families by reducing unemployment and under-employment.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Appointment of state, regional and/or local commissions (with representation by groups who have experienced job discrimination) to examine the effectiveness of equal opportunity programs and policies.
2. Tax incentives should be given to business and industry which provide on-the-job training programs. Such a plan could decrease the role of the government in training while assuring availability of programs to teach needed skills.

Topic: Employment Competencies and Jobs and the Family

Issue: Vocational Education

What can state and federal programs do to educate the populace about vocational education and ensure that vocational programs are available and accessible to all citizens?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The federal government should ensure that sufficient funds are available to each state to design and implement a broad vocational education program.
2. State governments should make available vocational training to all citizens at minimal costs.

Program Recommendations:

1. Appropriate curriculum guides for comprehensive vocational programs at elementary, secondary, and post-secondary levels should be developed.
2. Public schools should make vocational programs accessible during the regular school day to students of all ages and should also offer easy access to facilities and programs for skill development after school hours for persons who work.
3. Cooperative apprenticeship programs with industries/businesses should be developed to assure realistic training related to secondary technical institute and community college programs.
4. Internship programs should be expanded with public and private agencies.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Each state should review the status of existing vocational educational programs and delete and expand to meet technological, humanistic and scientific societal demands.
2. Businesses, agencies and industries should be provided tax incentives for cooperative internships and apprentice programs.

Topic: Tax Reform As It Affects the Family

Issue: In what ways, if any, should taxing authorities promote the general welfare of families by amending tax statutes which impose a penalty on the status of marriage?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of federal and state taxing authorities to repeal existing tax statutes which impose a financial penalty on the status of marriage.
2. It should be the policy of federal and state taxing authorities to amend tax statutes to award financial benefits that would encourage family solidarity.

Program Recommendations:

1. Amend the tax rates in the tax tables for the Internal Revenue Code so that a married couple with dual incomes will pay federal income tax in an aggregate sum no greater than the aggregate sum which two single individuals with corresponding adjusted gross incomes and deductions will pay.
2. Amend the Social Security Law to eliminate inequities with respect to taxes and benefits for married couples with dual incomes, for surviving spouses and for divorced persons.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals are urged to write their congressmen and senators and other legislators on state and local levels.
2. Conference follow-up staff should contact the President, members of the Congress and other key governmental leaders to inform them of conference findings and to explain the recommendations.
3. Consumers should enlist support of other proponents of the policy through appropriate existing organizations.
4. Conference follow-up staff should contact leadership in major political parties, national organizations, business and industry groups, professional and trade organizations, church-related groups and other special interest groups to inform them of conference findings and to explain the recommendations.
5. The President and conference follow-up staff should urge implementation of the policy recommendations at all appropriate levels.

Topic: Tax Reform As It Affects the Family

Issue: In what ways, if any, should taxing authorities promote the general welfare of families by amending tax statutes governing exemptions, deductions and credits?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of taxing authorities at all levels to provide exemptions, deductions and tax credits which are more supportive of the family unit.

Program Recommendations:

1. Amend the Internal Revenue Code and State General Statutes to adjust each allowable exemption to offset the rate of inflation (tax indexing).
2. Amend the Internal Revenue Code to double the exemption for dependents who are full-time students in post-secondary educational institutions.
3. Amend the Internal Revenue Code and State General Statutes to provide increased deductions and/or tax credits for child care and educational expenses.
4. Amend the Internal Revenue Code to provide for tax incentives to businesses and individuals to encourage citizens to volunteer as support personnel to community service programs.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals are urged to write their congressmen, senators and other legislators on state and local levels.
2. Conference follow-up staff should contact the President, members of the Congress and other key governmental leaders to inform them of conference findings and to explain the recommendations.
3. Consumers should enlist support of other proponents of the policy through appropriate existing organizations.
4. Conference follow-up staff should contact leadership in major political parties, national organizations, business and industry groups, professional and trade organizations, church-related groups and other special interest groups to inform them of conference findings and to explain the recommendations.
5. The President and conference follow-up staff should urge implementation of the policy recommendations at all appropriate levels.

Topic: Tax Reform As It Affects the Family

Issue: In what ways, if any, should taxing authorities promote the general welfare of families by enacting, amending or repealing sales taxes on food?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of taxing authorities to repeal existing sales taxes on food.
2. It should be the policy of taxing authorities to enact no taxes on food.

Program Recommendations:

1. Repeal state statutes which have enacted sales taxes on food.
2. Repeal local ordinances which have enacted sales taxes on food.
3. Amend United States Code to forbid imposition of any taxes on food purchased with government food stamps.
4. Increase excise taxes on such items as tobacco, alcoholic beverages and luxuries for alternative sources of revenue.
5. In states where applicable, raise or remove the ceiling on sales taxes on "big ticket" items such as cars and boats.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals are urged to write their congressmen, senators and other legislators on state and local levels.
2. Conference follow-up staff should contact the President, members of the Congress and other key governmental leaders to inform them of conference findings and to explain the recommendations.
3. Consumers should enlist support of other proponents of the policy through appropriate existing organizations.
4. Conference follow-up staff should contact leadership in major political parties, national organizations, business and industry groups, professional and trade organizations, church-related groups and other special interest groups to inform them of conference findings and to explain the recommendations.
5. The President and conference follow-up staff should urge implementation of the policy recommendations at all appropriate levels.

Topic: Responding to the Problem of Inadequate Family Income

Issue: The present system of categorical funding of human services programs is duplicative, wasteful, not understood, and is in need of major revision..

Policy Recommendations:

1. The federal government and the Congress should review the present structure of categorical funding and consolidate all funding for public assistance and social services into a single unit, with state and local structures determining their levels of need, so that administration, regulations, and paperwork are streamlined, simplified, and understandable.
2. Emphasis should be placed on developing a total program which would center on the total family, not those in specific categories.
3. The end result of this reorganization should be a single place in each county where families or members of families in difficulty can turn for assistance and/or needed services.

Program Recommendations:

1. All income maintenance programs and service programs need to be combined into a single unit, thereby reducing administrative regulations, duplicative structures, and simplifying the accountability process.
2. Accompanying the unified program outlined above there should be a continuous effort to advise the public: (a) of the changes being made, (b) of the services available, (c) of the manner in which these services and programs can be used, and (d) of the ways in which citizen input into local services is sought and utilized.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The White House Conference on Families should advise the Congress of these findings.
2. Both major political parties should be requested to begin at once to incorporate these findings into their policy positions on public assistance and services.
3. These findings need to be publicized nationally by the White House Conference staff to ensure their implementation.

Topic: Responding to the Problem of Inadequate Family Income

Issue: Families at all economic levels are under stress due to many factors which include the following among others: (1) inflation, (2) underemployment, (3) inadequate public assistance, (4) fixed dollar incomes, (5) lack of money management skills, and (6) low skill/low income.

Policy Recommendations:

1. A policy of tax incentives for industry needs to be developed so that job opportunities and training are more readily available.
2. Consumer credit counseling and money management courses need to be readily available to everyone, including the individuals from the grade school to the retiree.
3. The federal and state governments should institute employment policies which will provide for the maximum job opportunities for all employees and potential employees.

Program Recommendations:

1. There should be a tax incentive program developed by the administration and Congress which would enable private industry to (a) initiate job training for specific jobs in industry, (b) develop child care programs for employees to stabilize employment and strengthen the family life of employees, (c) provide alternate work patterns so that individuals who are unable to meet usual work patterns may be employed.
2. Programs of consumer credit counseling and money management need to be instituted at various points:
    a. within the schools for young children and as a public service to all citizens
    b. through neighborhoods at churches, through voluntary organizations
    c. by the establishment of consumer credit counseling services for those in financial difficulty.
3. The federal and state governments should initiate programs to:
    a. develop child care programs for employees to stabilize employment and strengthen the family life of employees
    b. provide alternate work patterns so that individuals who are retired or unable to meet usual work patterns may be employed
4. Special attention should be given to the unemployment levels of minority persons.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The President should convene a group of appropriate persons to develop a feasible plan for Congressional action to implement the policy. Among those to be invited should be top leaders from large and small businesses, industry, commerce, labor, and education.

Topic: Family Health Care Concerns

Issue: In what ways should home care services be assured for all Americans whose health needs are best served in the home setting using to optimum the family support systems?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the State of North Carolina to develop enabling legislation encouraging coordination of a broad range of home care services from existing public and private service agencies.
2. Standards should be established to assure proper training, supervision and management of home care providers.
3. It should be the policy to assure proper nutrition (special diets) to homebound Americans through home food delivery and food stamp program revisions and provisions.
4. It should be the policy of the federal government to eliminate regulatory barriers to home care programs.
5. It should be the policy of the State of North Carolina to raise the awareness of citizens of all available in-home services.

Program Recommendations:

1. Encourage legislation that will utilize existing services to meet home care needs through current funding mechanisms.
2. The federal government should eliminate distinction between home health aides and homemaker services in order to facilitate higher level of service delivery from contracting service groups.
3. The private sector should be encouraged to expand existing home meals delivery programs and to develop additional programs to reach homebound Americans.
4. The government should eliminate the three-day prior hospital stay for home health patients under Medicare and should eliminate $60 deductible (Medicare B, Senate Bill 505).
5. Central information, education, referral and emergency services should be identified and/or initiated at appropriate levels.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Committee members shall write to Congressional representatives.
2. Communicate with political representatives at all levels to encourage development and implementation of legislation that addresses cost containment and quality service.
3. Encourage removal of cost barriers to quality food programs at federal and state levels through contact with representatives while promoting the increased involvement of the private sector in provision of nutritional services.

4. Communicate concerns to national, state and local officials.

5.a. To increase awareness of state officials as to the lack and fragmentation of information dealing with home care, health-related issues and primary concerns of the elderly.

b. To increase public awareness through the establishment of public broadcasting services and television and radio spots utilizing existing funds.

Topic: Family Health Care Concerns

Issue: How can quality health care be made available to all people regardless of income?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Standards shall be established and evaluated to assure accountability for costs and services.
2. It should be the policy of the public and private sectors to ensure that quality health care and health insurance is affordable to all.
3. It should be the policy of the public and private sectors to ensure that quality health care is available and accessible to all.

Program Recommendations:

1. All standards should be developed which promote quality of care, efficiency and uniformity.
2. To promote affordability through the investigation of all appropriate means, including Medicare/Medicaid reform, private and public health insurance protection, health education and preventive health measures.
3. To promote availability and accessibility of health professionals and facilities in areas of special needs.

Strategy Recommendations:

1.a. Standards pertaining to overlapping programs and jurisdiction should be revised to avoid duplication and to alleviate resulting costs, inefficiency and misuse of available resources.

b. Primary responsibility for development, implementation and evaluation should rest, inasmuch as possible, with those nearest the delivery of services.

c. Sunset laws should be in effect and supported.

d. Legislative reform to alleviate duplications in government agencies and funded programs, e.g., reduction in the 100 plus federal agencies administering child health programs.

2.a. Fees should be posted to encourage consumer choice.

b. Voluntary cost containment efforts should be continued by all providers without rationing health care.

c. Private and National Health Insurance for catastrophic illnesses and pre-paid plans, such as HMOs and IPAs, should be investigated and evaluated as options.

d. Employers should be encouraged through tax incentives to offer health insurance coverage.

e. All health providers should be encouraged to teach their patients the advantages of health practices which prevent physical/mental illness.

f. Existing funds should be redirected to make available and support residencies and health professional programs which promote health practices to prevent physical and mental illness.

3.a. Transportation services and innovative methods of home health care services should be supported by the private and public sectors.

b. Public and private sectors should provide financial incentives for health professionals and facilities to locate in areas of special needs.

c. Local public and private sectors should initiate and continue planning to determine needs and attract resources.

d. Allied health professionals should be utilized to increase the availability and cost effectiveness of health care.

Topic: Family Health Care Concerns

Issue: In what ways should preventive health care be improved in order to promote family health in America? (Health Definition: The absence of physical and mental illness)

Policy Recommendations:

1. Should be the policy of all levels of government to encourage parental participation and involvement in all health care activities in the schools that relate to their child and assure that parents not be denied the right of participation in any aspect of the educational process that affects their child.
2. There should be improvement in the education of the public, especially of school children, toward preventive measures regarding the major health problems, such as cardiovascular disease, accidents, cancer, poor nutrition, mental illness and dental health, to assist the families/children in assuming personal responsibility for their health.
3. It should be the policy of federal, state and local governments to encourage each community to develop a local health system which ensures a site for comprehensive primary health care for all family members and especially all children.

Program Recommendations:

1. State legislation should be proposed and local school officials should establish procedures that would ensure to parents the accessibility of all family life and health curricula.
2. Such information should be provided in a variety of community settings, including civic groups, health care providers and the media, with special emphasis in the schools and churches.
3. Each community should have a plan developed by local public and private health providers in collaboration with parents and local leaders which identifies needs and resources, establishes local priorities and recommends methods of solving problems of the local health care system. A method of ensuring access to affordable, continuous health care for each child should be the cornerstone of each community plan.

Strategy Recommendations:

1.a. Collaboration will be encouraged by local officials through open meetings at the local level among educators, health professionals and private citizens in ensuring that quality health education be made available to children.

b. The State Department of Public Instruction shall publicize those school units funded for school health education coordinators along with their goals and the agreements between the state and local school units.

2.a. Churches, civic organizations, the medical community, schools and industry shall be urged to identify service areas they may adopt to promote preventive health education through community events, such as health fairs, church health education programs, public service announcements on radio and television and public forums.

b. Support additional health education in the schools.

c. To provide adequate preventive health care education in teacher training curricula.

3. Incentives should be provided to local communities for development of local health care plans. Elimination of duplication of services, improved communication and coordination of efforts among providers and agencies should be encouraged. Preventive health measures, such as health education and screening for major illnesses, should be stressed. A source of primary medical care should be identified for all children. The primary health provider should be acceptable to the parents of the child and should agree to coordinate that child's health care with special attention to advocating for and directing the parents to other needed services. A method of funding should be developed or identified for those who are unable to pay; publicly-funded primary health care services may be offered to others only for a fee based on ability to pay.

Topic: Families and Education

Issue: How can quality education be made available to families at reasonable cost?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It shall be the policy at all decision-making levels of the education process to develop and implement effectively a plan which would place priority on the basic skills of language, arts, math, and family life education.
2. It shall be the policy of the state of North Carolina to improve the quality of teaching.
3. It shall be the policy of the federal, state, and local government to manage educational funds more efficiently.
4. It shall be the right for every child to have individualized quality education.

Program Recommendations:

1. The state of North Carolina shall require of certifying institutions uniform competency-based standards for teacher preparation and certification that will be continually evaluated and upgraded.
2. The state of North Carolina shall require of educators for initial certification and recertification competency in abstract reasoning, writing skills, non-memorization skills, problem solving and other basic skills.
3. Parents and educators shall jointly plan the individualized education plan beginning with first grade.
4. Sex education shall be taught at all levels and curricula options shall be jointly developed by educators and parents prior to the implementation.
5. Teachers who are not certified health teachers and who are required to teach in areas of health such as sex and drug education shall be required to have special training.
6. The North Carolina General Assembly shall appropriate enough funds so that the teacher-pupil ratio is lowered and thereby the quality of teaching can be enhanced.
7. The state of North Carolina and the federal government shall require all private and church-related schools to initiate standards for curriculum and teachers no less than those in place in the public school system.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. There shall be a system of courses and/or inservice workshops for educators listed in "Program 2".
2. The North Carolina Board of Education shall form a committee composed of legislators, educators, and other citizens to reevaluate the purpose and consequences of the Tenure Act in order to improve the quality of instruction.
3. Local schools shall make curriculum guides and materials readily available to parents and other interested citizens.
4. There shall be a system of courses and/or inservice workshops for all level teachers who are not certified as health educators but are required to teach sex education, drug education, and other important health areas.

Topic: Families and Education

Issue: How may public awareness be increased as to the needs and rights of families with exceptional children* in determining and directing their education?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of government at all levels to increase the awareness of families with exceptional children to their rights and responsibilities in education as guaranteed by PL 94-142, the NC Creech Bill, and other laws.
2. It should be the policy of the state to require and provide adequate training for teachers of exceptional children.
3. It should be the policy of the federal government to fully appropriate funds for Federal Law 94-142 with no strings attached.
4. The definition of the exceptional child should be expanded to include the behaviorally disordered child, i.e., the child who by virtue of his/her behavior precludes the ability to function in the traditional classroom.

Program Recommendations:

1. Councils for Exceptional Children should be established in each local educational district and its funding provided by the State Board of Education. Its members should be selected through election by the general population and this election should be supervised by the Local Educational Agency. It shall be the local CEC's business to evaluate, and advocate for, appropriate placement for exceptional children.
2. LEAs should establish professional outreach programs for families of children with special needs. An outreach professional, funded by the SBE, shall be responsible for direct parent contact--shall explain testing possibilities for their child, the child's Individualized Education Program, placement possibilities, the due process procedures for appealing decisions made by the LEA, etc. This outreach person shall also provide inhouse training for teachers in meeting the needs of exceptional children in the classroom. Results of the outreach efforts shall be reported to the SBE semiannually. A viable volunteer element should be part of the outreach program.
3. The State Board of Education should require special education training of all educational degree programs. Teacher "A" Certificates should require a minimum of six credit hours of academic education in special education; principals' certificates should require nine credit hours; and superintendents' certificates should require twelve credit hours in special education for children with special needs. Technical schools and community colleges which train teachers' aides should make similar provisions for training aides in special education.
4. The State Board of Education should require competency testing of its teachers for certification. The method of teacher competency testing presently used in New York, California, and other states should perhaps be studied as possible models. Competency testing should include a section of special education training.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Conference follow-up staff should contact key officials with the State Board of Education, other government agencies, parents groups (i.e., the PTA, Parents and Professionals for Handicapped Children), and child advocacy agencies to inform them of the Conference findings, to explain the recommendations, and to advocate for appropriate measures.

* autistic
gifted and talented
hearing impaired
mentally handicapped
multihandicapped
orthopedically impaired
other health impaired
pregnant school girls
serious emotionally handicapped
specific learning disabilities
speech and language impaired
visually impaired

Topic: Families and Education

Issue: In what ways can home-school relations be improved so as to strengthen the family unit?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy at all levels of educational decision making to encourage home-school communication.
2. It shall be the policy of the public school system to reflect the existence and concerns of varied family forms, including single parent families.
3. It shall be the policy that the public school system have clear and locally accessible avenues for parents to effect change in their child's education at all decision-making levels.*
4. It should be the policy of the public school system to provide for the earliest possible screening and identification of exceptional children and other children with school-related problems, and together with parents help determine the best possible ways to meet the needs of these children.

Program Recommendations:

1. The Board of Education working together with school officials, parents, and parents' employers should establish and implement procedures which would promote quality parent-teacher communication, taking into consideration the work schedules of fathers and mothers.
2. Parents shall be informed in a planned manner of the procedures for their involvement in the child's educational process.
3. State and local school boards shall inform parents of all avenues presently available for effecting change in their child's education.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Teacher certification/recertification shall incorporate training in techniques for better parent-teacher, teacher-child affective education and communication skills.
2. Teachers shall be encouraged to communicate with fathers as well as mothers and other legal guardians.
3. Every school should survey fathers and mothers to determine their working hours.
4. Scheduling parent-teacher conferences should be personally negotiated between teachers and parents.
5. Alternate sites should be considered by school officials in setting up parent-teacher conferences for large segment of parents living far away from the school.
6. School officials shall request parents' local employers to give parents time off for parent-teacher conferences.
7. Teachers should plan for and inform parents of observation days of typical classroom procedures.
8. The State Department of Public Instruction shall highly advertise significant state meetings to parents (such as textbook committee hearings).
9. Information should be made available on present political procedures available through community leaders and news media and through school newsletters, flyers, brochures, study programs, etc.
10. Existing avenues on political procedure shall be revitalized and the need for new avenues shall be identified, i.e., PTA and local school advisory committees.
11. Parents' grievance committee shall be established through the local PTA or school advisory committee.
12. Where local school advisory committees do not exist, they shall be established.
13. The State Textbook Commission shall be representative of the citizenry and with no less than thirty percent parent representation.
14. Each local school system shall have a local curriculum committee composed of parents and educators for the purpose of being a liaison to the state curriculum commission.
15. Programs that provide for education relating to teenage pregnancies should include teenage fathers as well as mothers.

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* "Parents" refers to father, mother, and/or other legal guardians

PUERTO RICO

Familias e Instituciones

Topic:

Media

Issue:

¿Qué medios se pueden utilizar para controlar la programación de la radio y la televisión a los fines de que ésta contribuya al fortalecimiento de la familia?

Policy Recommendations:

Que se establezca política pública para controlar la programación de radio y T.V. de acuerdo a su impacto en el individuo y la familia.

Program Recommendations: Que se establezca en Puerto Rico una organización con autoridad para recibir quejas, evaluar, recomendar, supervisar y clasificar la programación de radio y T.V. Requerir que por lo menos el uno por ciento del tiempo de programación se dedique específicamente al área de fortalecimiento de la familia. Reglamentar las horas en que se trasmiten los programas de acuerdo a la clasificación previamente dada.

Strategy Recommendations:

Reunir la evidencia necesaria para demostrar como la actual programación afecta la familia. Solicitar mediante cartas, telegramas y otras formas de cabildeo el establecimiento de esta organización.

Issue:

¿Como se puede minimizar el efecto nocivo que tiene sobre la familia el contenido y estilo de la informacion ofrecida en algunos articulos, periodicos, revistas y otras publicaciones?

Policy Recommendations:

Que los medios de comunicacion escrita respondan a un codigo de etica donde los valores de foratlecimiento familiar predominen.

Program Recommendations:

Que la Comision para Proteccion y Fortalecimiento de la Familia recomienda haga una monitoria de los periodicos, libros y revistas, especiamente los de mayor circulación para determinar el contenido de los mismos y su clasificacion. Que los periodicos y las revistas según la frecuencia de su publicacion asignen espacio para ofrecer información relacionada con fortalecimiento de la familia.

Strategy Recommendations:

Que se respalde el Proyecto de Ley contra la Pornografía. Estimular a grupos cívicos, y a la ciudadanía a que exijan a los editores de prensa, libros y revistas, se evite la publicación de temas relacionados con pornografía, violencia y otros temas de esta naturaleza.

Issue:

¿Cómo se puede ayudar a la ciudadanía para que utilice los medios de comunicación como un recurso para el fortalecimiento de la familia?

Policy Recommendations:

Que sea política pública el educar a la ciudadanía sobre el uso efectivo de los medios de comunicación.

Program Recommendations: Que las Escuelas de Comunicación establezcan programas y seminarios para orientar al público sobre el uso efectivo de los medios de comunicación. Dar recursos a las agencias para que se realicen programas que compitan favorablemente con los programas comerciales. Que el Departamento de Instrucción a través de sus emisoras y de sus programas colabore en la educación de la ciudadanía sobre los medios de comunicación y su contribución al fortalecimiento de la familia.

Strategy Recommendations:

Educar a la ciudadanía para que patrocine los programas que puedan tener efectos positivos en la familia. Lograr que las firmas comerciales auspicien programas de fortalecimiento familiar. Crear conciencia en la ciudadanía de la responsabilidad que tienen de evaluar y controlar lo que se ve, oye y lee en el hogar.

Familias, Retos y Responsabilidades

Topic:

Niños y Padres

Issue:

¿Qué medidas preventivas puede tomar el gobierno con parejas que van a contraer matrimonio, para propiciar la formación de familias estables con el propósito de lograr un clima saludable en el hogar?

Policy Recommendations:

Que se revise la política pública dirigida al fortalecimiento de la familia desde su inicio y formación, con énfasis en la educación y prevención.

Program Recommendations: Establecer Clínicas de Salud Marital para preparar futuros cónyuges. Hacer compulsorio un currículo sobre materia de familia en el sistema educativo. Legislar sobre certificación de curso preparatorio al matrimonio como requisito para obtener licencia para casarse. Revisar la ley sobre el matrimonio.

Strategy Recommendations:

Revisar currículo sobre noviazgo, matrimonio y paternidad responsable. Adiestrar profesionales que implementen currículo sugerido. Realizar estudio científico que revele situación y necesidades de familia contemporánea. Movilizar ciudadanía, agencias y programas públicos y privados a que soliciten implementación de las medidas antes sugeridas.

Issue:

¿Cómo podría ofrecerse orientación y tratamiento a familias para evitar su debilitamiento y desintegración?

Policy Recommendations: Que los servicios de orientación y tratamiento dirigidos al fortalecimiento de la familia tengan prioridad en la política pública.

Program Recommendations: Establecer centros de orientación y tratamiento familiar, que puedan dar servicio fuera de horas laborables. Fortalecer las agencias u organizaciones que existen para la prestación de servicios a la familia. Establecer servicios por los cuales cada familia pagará de acuerdo a sus ingresos.

Strategy Recommendations: Educar a la ciudadanía para que utilice los recursos de orientación y tratamiento existentes en la comunidad de consejería familiar.

Issue:

¿Cómo podría el Estado tomar medidas para los embarazos en adolescentes?

Policy Recommendations:

Que el Estado reconozca la importancia de la educación sexual en la prevención y reducción de embarazos en adolescentes.

Program Recommendations:

Ofrecer educación sexual y cursos de vida en familia, en todos los niveles de enseñanza. Adiestrar profesionales para el desempeño efectivo de esta tarea.

Strategy Recommendations:

Recopilar y presentar datos estadísticos relacionados con el tema. Educar a la ciudadanía sobre la importancia de la educación sexual.

Familias y Necesidades Humanas

Topic:

Escuela

Issue:

¿En qué forma puede el currículo escolar contribuir al desarrollo de valores éticos, morales y espirituales, de manera que se fortalezca la vida de familia en Puerto Rico?

Policy Recommendations:

La política pública del Estado debe propiciar al desarrollo de valores éticos, morales y espirituales en el individuo como miembro de una familia.

Program Recommendations:

Implantar un currículo escolar que promueva el desarrollo de valores éticos, morales y espirituales desde el nível pre-escolar.

Strategy Recommendations:

Asignar Comités de Trabajos para la revisión del currículo escolar y la evaluación del mismo y la marcha.

Issue:

¿En qué forma el gobierno puede mejorar la calidad de la enseñanza para beneficiar a la familia?

Policy Recommendations:

Que tenga primera prioridad dentro de la política pública sobre educación el asegurar un proceso de enseñanza, aprendizaje de mayor efectividad para contribuir al fortalecimiento de la familia.

Program Recommendations: Revisar criterios de selección y nombramiento de maestros. Revisar currículo universitario para la preparación de educadores. Prover unos programas de adiestramiento y readiestramiento basado en las necesidades del sistema educativo. Revisar las normas y procedimientos de evaluación del proceso educativo. Organizar las escuelas en equipos interdisciplinarios y en horarios flexibles de acuerdo a las necesidades de maestros y estudiantes. Fortalecer los servicios de trabajo social, salud y orientación vocacional.

Strategy Recommendations:

Que la ciudadanía se movilice para que se implanten las medidas sugeridas. Educar a la ciudadanía para que se organice grupos de padres que puedan solicitar una mayor participación en el proceso educativo de sus hijos. Crear organizaciones estudiantiles que presenten sugerencias en cuanto a medida para mejorar el proceso de enseñanza-aprendizaje.

Issue:

¿En qué forma la comunicación hogar, escuela y comunidad puede mejorarse para contribuir al fortalecimiento de la vida en familia?

Policy Recommendations:

En la política pública debe ser mandatoria la creación de un Comité Consultivo de padres, estudiantes, educadores y representantes de diferentes sectores de la comunidad para lograr una comunicación efectiva entre hogar, escuela y comunidad.

Program Recommendations: Legislar para que se haga mandatorio la organización de los Comités Consultivos en las escuelas. Implantar y poner en vigor la ley que obliga a los padres a enviar a sus hijos a la escuela, aumentando edad compulsoria. Ofrecer talleres vivenciales a padres, maestros, estudiantes y voluntarios en Relaciones Húmanas y Vida en Familia. Proveer horarios flexibles para que los maestros visiten hogares. Revisar y poner en vigor reglamentos de estudiantes y de maestros. Asignar más vigilantes y adiestrar voluntarios para la seguridad en las escuelas.

Strategy Recommendations:

Que se estimule una mayor participación de padres, estudiantes y maestros y otros miembros de la comunidad en la toma de decisiones sobre asuntos de la escuela. Estimular el servicio voluntario de padres y otros miembros de la comunidad con adiestramiento previo para ofrecer servicios a los estudiantes.

FAMILIAS Y NECESIDADES HUMANAS

Topic: Cuidado del Niño

Issue: ¿Cómo lograr que los menores, cuyos padres o encargados no le pueden ofrecer un hogar adecuado por razón de separación, divorcio, incapacidad ó muerte, disfruten de un hogar satisfactorio y permanente?

Policy Recommendations: Que se adopte como política pública que a todo menor removido de su hogar natural se le prepare un plan de permanencia en o antes de los seis meses en que se efectuó la remoción.

Program Recommendations: Legislar para la creación de un programa conducente a ofrecer servicio de hogar de crianza formalizado y un programa de adopción subsidiada.

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Recopilar datos que evidencien la necesidad de este servicio.
2. Que el Departamento de Servicios Sociales perpare anteproyectos de ley para crear ambos servicios.
3. Movilizar la ciudadanía y en especial a las personas afectadas y/o interesadas para que hagan distintos acercamientos a legisladores en cuanto a la aprobación de las leyes propuestas.

Issue: ¿Como puede el Estado propiciar que todo menor reciba atencion adecuada durante las horas en que sus padres estén fuera del hogar trabajando o estudiando?

Policy Recommendations: Reconocer la importancia de ayudar a las familias para que se atiendan las necesidades de cuidado y atención de los menores.

Program Recommendations: Que las escuelas publicas y privadas ofrezcan servicios de tutoria, actividades recreativas y o de educacion fisica despues del horario para los cursos academicos. Que los centros comunales y o parques tengan supervision adecuada. Enmendar la ley de seguridad social vigente (T.XX) para que se incluya en forma permanente a P.R. sus beneficios.

Strategy Recommendations: Que la Comision para el Fortalecimiento de la Familia haga un estudio de las necesidades de cuidado diurno, servicios y programas para menores y utilice los hallazgos al hacer recomendaciones sobre el desarrollo e implementación de los mismos, así como la legislación que se estime deseable. Movilizar a la ciudadanía para que apóyen la enmienda al T.XX de la Ley de Seguridad Social extendiendo permanentemente los beneficios a Puerto Rico.

Issue: ¿De que forma se puede proveer para que toda empresa o agencia de servicio público que sirva o emplee a personas con niños de edad pre-escolar bajo su custodía o responsabilidad, provea durante horas laborales los servicios de cuidado diurno para éstos?

Policy Recommendations: Reconocer la importancia de ayudar a las familias para que se atiendan las necesidades de cuidado y atención de niños pre-escolares.

Program Recommendations: Legislar para que toda empresa, agencia, centros comerciales, hospitales y otras facilidades públicas y privadas provean facilidades para cuidado de los niños mientras las personas trabajan y/o reciben servicios, proveyendo a éstas un incentivo económico para ofrecer el servicio.

Strategy Recommendations: Que la Comisión para el Fortalecimiento de la Familia en coordinación con el Departamento del Trabajo y otras agencias y entidades haga un estudio de las necesidades de cuidado diurno de las familias a quienes prestan servicios y hagan un inventario de sus recursos físicos y humanos.

Familias y Bienestar Económico

Topic: Asistencia Financiera

Issue: ¿De que forma las agencias federales pueden hacer compulsorio que todos los ciudadanos que se acojan a beneficios de programs de seguridad social rindan una labor de servicio a la comunidad para evitar la dependencia económica y la degradación moral de la familia?

Policy Recommendations:

Debe ser política gubernamental que los ciudadanos que se acojan a beneficios de seguridad social rendirán alguna labor de servicio comunal siempre y cuando su salud se lo permita.

Program Recommendations:

Que se enmienden las leyes que regulan la creación de programas de seguridad social a estos efectos.

Strategy Recommendations:

Desarrollar campañas sobre la creatividad y la productividad en el desarrollo de la persona.
Crear conciencia ciudadana sobre la necesidad de la ayuda de las personas hacia su prójimo y su comunidad y proveer oportunidad para que ofrezcan esa ayuda .
Crear programas que estimulen la creatividad y no el consumo y que se reevaluen los programas existentes.

Issue:

¿Como lograr que las agencias que proveen ayudas a las familias tengan más y mejor supervisión del uso que se dá a esas ayudas?

Policy Recommendations:
El gobierno debe establecer como política pública la supervisión de las familias recipiendarias de estas ayudas de manera que éstas se utilizen para los fines que fueron creadas.

Program Recommendations:
Revisar la ley que implementa el programa de cupones y de ayuda económica y enmendarla si fuera necesario de manera que se les exija a los beneficiarios el uso adecuado de esos recursos, sujetos a penalidad por violaciones.

Strategy Recommendations:

Evaluar un número de casos periódicamente de acuerdo a unas metas establecidas a corto y a largo plazo.

Supervisar más de cerca a quienes se les provee cupones y/o asisitencia económica.

Issue: ¿En qué forma se puede requerir que el Gobierno Federal considere a los envejecientes e incapacitados residentes en instituciones fuera de las excepciones estipuladas en la Ley 95-113, Sección 273.1 d (1) (2) como elegibles a participar del Programa de Cupones para Alimentos?

Policy Recommendations:

El Gobierno Federal debe adoptar como política pública que envejecientes e incapacitados que residan en instituciones con fines no lucrativos puedan ser elegibles a participar del Programa de Cupones para Alimentos.

Program Recommendations:

El Congreso de los Estados Unidos debe enmendar la Sección 273.1 d de la Ley 95-113 del 29 de septiembre de 1977 del Programa de Cupones para Alimentos, de forma que se consideren elegibles a participar del Programa de Cupones para Alimentos, envejecientes e incapacitados que reciban servicios de instituciones residenciales con fines no lucrativos.

Strategy Recommendations:

Las personas afectadas o interesadas deben escribir a los legisladores y agencias concernidas para que aprueben la enmienda propuesta.

Aquellas instituciones con fines no lucrativos y de escasos recursos financieros, mayormente recibidos a través de donaciones de la comunidad y en las cuales residen envejecientes e incapacitados afectados por esta ley, deben organizarse como grupo para ofrecer información relevante sobre la situación prevalecientes en relación a estos dos grupos vulnerables de la comunidad y de como mejoraría la situación de enmendarse la ley actual.

Topic: Cuidado del Anciano

Issue: ¿Cómo puede el Estado proveer hogares sustitutos adecuados para todo anciano en necesidad de cuidado?

Policy Recommendations: Debe ser política pública velar por el cuidado adecuado de los envejecientes en o fuera del hogar.

Program Recommendations: Asignar en forma regular más recursos económicos para ampliar el servicio de Hogar Sustituto a los ancianos que lo necesiten, independientemente de su nivel social y económico, de manera que aportando o no hacia su financiamiento se le provea un hogar y una familia con la cual convivir.

Strategy Recommendations: Coordinar campañas masivas de educación y reclutamiento de hogares sustitutos entre la ciudadanía.

Que los envejecientes cabildeen para que se asignen los fondos necesarios para la implementación del servicio.

Issue: ¿Cómo puede el Estado ayudar a las familias a tomar la decisión más adecuada para el cuidado de los envejecientes a tono con las necesidades y recursos del grupo familiar?

Policy Recommendations: Debe ser política pública estimular el cuidado del anciano en el hogar. Partiendo de la premisa que la familia ofrece el ambiente más propicio para el desarrollo de sus miembros, (el Estado debe formular un plan de acción coordinado para proveer servicios sostenedores) para la atención de los ancianos dentro del núcleo familiar.

Program Recommendations: Que el Congreso de los Estados Unidos asigne a Puerto Rico, fondos federales fijos (Título XX y otros) para crear, ampliar y mantener servicios sostenedores como cuidado diurno, amas de llaves y otros. Enmendar la ley de medicare de manera que permita el pago de los gastos del cuidado del anciano en el hogar.

Strategy Recommendations: Recopilar y analizar la legislación relacionada con el cuidado del envejeciente para identificar áreas de necesidad que requieran acción legislativa. Estimular la organización de grupos de familias con envejecientes (consumidores de servicios) para que en coordinación con el Estado se diseñen los servicios que estén a tono con las necesidades de estas familias.

Issue: ¿De qué forma puede el Estado asegurar que sea de calidad el cuidado para ancianos provisto por el sector privado?

Policy Recommendations: Debe ser política pública velar por el cuidado adecuado de los envejecientes en o fuera del hogar.

Program Recommendations: Que se asigne en forma regular los recursos fiscales adecuados (federales y estatales) para asegurar que la ley 94 de 1977 se implemente con el vigor necesario. Establecer unidades de licenciamiento a niveles regionales. Que el Departamento de Asuntos del Consumidor regule el costo del servicio en facilidades privadas, a tono con la prestación del mismo.

Strategy Recommendations: Mantener un sistema de supervisión regular para ayudar a los operadores a mantener su licencia.
Que los usuarios y sus familias soliciten el establecimiento de los controles de costo de acuerdo con el servicio que reciben.

Familias y Necesidades Humanas

Topic:

Salud

Issue:

¿Qué medidas adicionales pueden tormarse para prevenir al público sobre el efecto nocivo del uso de bebidas alcohólicas y drogas?

Policy Recommendations:

Que se revise la política pública para el control del uso y abuso de bebidas alcohólicas y drogas.

Program Recommendations: Que se fortalezcan los programas educativos de prevención. Que se legisle para controlar el uso de bebidas alcohólicas en lugares públicos de uso común y los anuncios de bebidas alcohólicas a través de la radio, T.V., prensa y cine.

Strategy Recommendations:

Orientar a los individuos y agrupaciones cívicas a que se conviertan grupos de acción social para solicitar se apruebe y ponga en vigor la legislación sugerida.

Issue:

¿En qué forma se pueden ampliar los servicios de salud mental para menores con enfermedades mentales?

Policy Recommendations:

Que la atención de la salud mental de los menores tengan primera prioridad dentro de los servicios de salud mental.

Program Recommendations: La Oficina de Desarrollo Integral del Niño: debe propulsar un estudio sobre el problema de salud mental de los niños y jóvenes menores de 18 años y promover legislación para la re-estructuración y desarrollo de un programa de salud mental para los jóvenes. Establecer más facilidades de hospitalización y hogares intermedios para la atención de la salud mental de mejores. Ampliar los servicios y facilidades educativas para estos menores.

Strategy Recommendations:

Preparar propuestas presupuestarias para que se pueda ofrecer los servicios de salud mental a los menores. Educar a la ciudadanía para que conozca, respalde e impulse la legislación propuesta.

Issue:

¿En qué forma puede el gobierno promover e implantar servicios de salud que sigan el enfoque de medicina de familia?

Policy Recommendations:

Debe ser política del Estado el adoptar un enfoque familiar interdisciplinario para los servicios de salud.

Program Recommendations: Adiestrar personal para estructurar el plan de medicina en familia. Enmendar la Ley de Medic Aid, Medicare, para que se pague por los servicios de todo el equipo interdisciplinarios (médicos, trabajadores sociales, nutricionistas, psicólogos etc.). Que los servicios de salud recomendados se cobren en proporción a los recursos de las familias.

Strategy Recommendations:

La ciudadanía debe requerir que se implemente el programa de medicina familiar. Que se solicite al Congreso que se enmiende la Ley de "Medicaid y Medicare" para autorizar los pagos al equipo. Orientar al público para que se reconozca la limitación de recursos y contribuyan económicamente para sufragar los costos.

Topic:

Familia y Trabajo

Issue:

¿Que medidas pueden tomarse para beneficiar a los jóvenes de 16 a 24 años que están desempleados?

Policy Recommendations:

Que sea política pública el dar primera prioridad a la atención de la problemática de jóvenes de 16 a 24 años que están desempleados.

Program Recommendations:

Implantar un currículo especial para la preparación técnica y profesional a diferentes niveles educativos y proveer incentivos a jóvenes estudiantes de 16 a 24 años para aumentar la retención escolar.

Fomentar mediante un programa de incentivos la labor agrícola entre los jóvenes.

Strategy Recommendations:

Estimular a la juventud a permanecer en la escuela y a prepararse mejor para el mundo del trabajo a través de cursos vocacionales y/a técnicos que estén en demanda.

Promover la organización de comités de trabajo entre la escuela, agencias y entidades de la comunidad cuyas funciones se relacionen con el desarrollo y utilización de jóvenes entre las edades de 16 a/24 años que forman parte de la fuerza trabajadora en el mercado de empleo.

Issue:

¿Qué medidas podrían tomarse para propiciar la participacion del grupo trabajador en actividades que contribuyan al buen funcionamiento de sus respectivas familias?

Policy Recommendations:

Que sea politica pública el fortalecer las familias de empleados a traves de accion tomada en sus escenarios de trabajo.

Program Recommendations:

1. Legislar para que el sector público y privado adopte un sistema de horario flexible.
2. Establecer centros de cuidado diurno en el lugar de empleo y desarrollar facilidades de recreación accesibles a todos los miembros de la familia.
3. Enmendar ley de sistema de retiro para requerir 25 años de servicio en lugar de 30 si los recursos fiscales lo permiten.

Strategy Recommendations:

Orientar a los patronos y al sector publico de la necesidad de desarrollar actividades y facilidades fisicas y de servicios humanos que permitan al trabajador cumplir con el rol dual de empleados y miembros responsable de una familia.

Estimular y proveer para la participación voluntaria activa en el servicio publico de los desempleados por tiempo prolongado que reciben seguro por desempleo o cupones para alimentos, para garantizarles el desarrollo y mantenimiento de destrezas que le permitan competir en el mercado de empleo y asi desenvolverse satisfactoriamente en su vida de familia.

Issue: ¿Cómo conseguir que las condiciones de trabajo ayuden a fortalecer la vida en familia?

Policy Recommendations: Que sea política pública el propiciar que el individuo armonice su rol de empleado y el de miembro de su nucleo familiar.

Program Recommendations: Que se revise y enmiende la ley para proveer empleo a tiempo parcial o reducción de horas laborables a empleados del gobierno. Legislar para crear horario flexible. Que se adopten medidas similares con la empresa privad

Strategy Recommendations: Orientar al empleado sobre los recursos que ofrecen los diferentes escenarios de trabajo para contribuir al fortalecimiento de su familia

Educar a los patronos respecto a su responsabilidad para con el buen funcionamiento de las familias de sus empleados.

Movilizar la cuidadanía para que respalde e impulse las revisiones y enmiendas propuestas a la legislación vigente.

Familias y Necesidades Humanas

Topic:

Vivienda

Issue:

¿Cómo lograr que la ciudadanía se familiarice con las ventajas y desventajas de los distintos tipos de vivienda para que a tono con sus necesidades seleccione la más adecuada?

Policy Recommendations:

Educar a la ciudadanía respecto a modalidades de vivienda disponibles y como satisfacen una y otras las necesidades de cada familia y en particular las de núcleos con necesidades especiales.

Program Recommendations: Establecer un código de ética a nivel estatal que sirva de guía a todas las agencias públicas y privadas relacionadas con el servicio de viviendas para que ofrezcan orientación espécifica al usuario sobre la selección y mejor uso del tipo de vivienda de acuerdo a las necesidades de cada familia en particular. Efectuar estudio sobre la problemática de la vivienda multifamiliar con el propósito de encontrar soluciones a la misma.

Strategy Recommendations:

Orientar a la ciudadanía al momento de seleccionar una vivienda y cuando se muevan de un tipo de vivienda a otro para un mejor ajuste.

Issue:

¿En qué forma puede el Gobierno contribuir a aumentar la disponibilidad de viviendas tanto en la zona rural como en la zona urbana?

Policy Recommendations:

Fortalecer la política pública en términos de que cada familia viva en una vivienda adecuada tanto en la zona rural como en la zona urbana..

Program Recommendations: Que las agencias federales y estatales coordinen esfuerzos al bregar con problemática de la vivienda. Ampliar los subsidios estatales y federales en programas de vivienda rural. Ofrecer incentivos a mercado de viviendas de alquiler y revisar Ley de Alquileres para ampliar jurisdicción de Daco en este aspecto. Adquirir más terrneo no cultivable para su distribución en parcelas y construcción de vivienda.

Strategy Recommendations:

Orientar a la ciudadanía sobre la elegibilidad en programas de vivienda. Incrementar la construcción de viviendas mediante programas de ayuda mutua. Establecer Consejo Asesor de Vivienda Rural que incluya sector público y privado. Orientar a familias que se mueven de una zona a otra para que logren una mejor adaptación.

Issue:

¿Cómo lograr que la vivienda resulte ser un elemento que propicie el funcionamiento adecuado del núcleo familiar y de los miembros de una comunidad?

Policy Recommendations:

Reforzar la política pública del gobierno para que se considere en la planificación, diseño, construcción y uso de la vivienda, la influencia que ésta ejerce en la vida de familia y de comunidad.

Program Recommendations: Revisar los estatutos federales y estatales de requisitos mínimos para que propicien la construcción de viviendas adecuadas a tono con las necesidades de la familia. Impulsar legislación para fortalecer y coordinar programas de desarrollo y organización de la comunidad teniendo como marco de referencia la familia y su vivienda.

Strategy Recommendations: Educar desde su formación profesional a los individuos que laboran en la planificación, diseño, construcción de viviendas sobre la influencia de ésta en la vida de familia y de comunidad. Motivar a la comunidad a trabajar para el fortalecimiento de la familia. Estimular la participación ciudadana en organización de actividades a nivel de comunidad y estimular aquellas que promueven el acercamiento a comunidades adyacentes. Organizar foros de residentes para solución de problemas de la familia y su comunidad.

Familias y Bienestar
Económico

Topic: **Familias como consumidores**

Issue: ¿Cómo se puede lograr que el Gobierno Federal le de énfasis mayor a los programas de protección al consumidor?

Policy Recommendations: Que el Gobierno Federal establezca como política pública ofrecer servicios de protección al consumidor de una forma integrada.

Program Recommendations: Que el Gobierno Federal legisle para la creación de una agencia de protección al consumidor y le provea de poderes legales para llevar a cabo su tarea. Coordinar labor de diferentes agencias que tengan ingerencia en la política y programas de protección y educación al consumidor.

Strategy Recommendations: Organización de grupos de consumidores y representantes de agencias relacionadas con éstos para lograr la creación de la agencia de protección al consumidor. Movilizar ciudadanía para respaldar e impulsar legislación al efecto.

Issue: ¿Cómo lograr darle prioridad a la educación al consumidor y a minimizar la influencia de la propaganda comercial en la atención de las necesidades básicas de la familia?

Policy Recommendations: Que el gobierno refuerce la política pública sobre la educación al consumidor y la reglamentación de los anuncios que tienen efecto en la familia consumidora.

Program Recommendations: Legislar para aumentar presupuesto de programas de educación y orientación al consumidor y para reglamentar la calidad y cantidad de programas informativos relacionados con el consumo . Capacitación de profesionales que laboren en economía y protección al consumidor. Diseño de currículo en economía de consumo que provea cursos en todos los niveles académicos y provea educación a través de medios de comunicación.

Strategy Recommendations:

Estimular a consumidores y legisladores para fortalecer los programas de de educación al consumidor. Organización de grupos de consumidores que velen por intereses del consumidor y se manifiesten a favor de legislación al respecto.

Issue: ¿Cómo puede el Gobierno ayudar a la familia como consumidora a combatir el alto costo de la vida?

Policy Recommendations: Que se refuercen las medidas que tiendan a reducir la espiral inflacionaria.

Program Recommendations: Reforzar las leyes y prácticas anti-monopolistas y de control de precio. Legislar para: a. requerir consejería económica en instituciones de crédito; b. extender ley de rotulación de ropa a Puerto Rico; c. rotular en español e indicar calidad de los productos que se vendan en Puerto Rico; d. permitir descuento del salario-autorizado por el empleado para depositarlo en cuentas de ahorro en Bancos Comerciales.

Strategy Recommendations:

Educar a la ciudadanía sobre los programas de orientación existentes para combatir el alto costo de la vida y como hacer el mejor uso de éstos. Que una mayor proporción de los productos producidos en Puerto Rico que se consumen localmente se distribuya directamente en el mercado local sin tener que ser enviados a Estados Unidos y re-embarcados a Puerto Rico. Ampliar los centros de orientación sobre presupuesto y administración de dinero. Movilizar ciudadanía para que respalde aprobación de legislación antes propuesta.

PUERTO RICO

Families and Institutions

Topic:

Media

Issue:
How can the noxious effects on the family of the content and style of information offered the public be minimized? Including certain articles, magazines and other publications.

Policy Recommendations:

That the print media respond to a code of ethics wherein the values of the family predominate.

Program Recommendations:

That the recommended commission for the protection and strengthening of the family monitor newspapers, books and magazines, especially those with large circulation to determine their content and their classification. That newspapers and magazines in accordance to the frequency of publication, set aside space to offer the public information designed to strengthen the family.

Strategy Recommendations:

That a project to develop a law against pornography be supported. That civic groups and the public be stimulated to demand that editors of newspaper, books and magazine avoid themes that are related to ponography, violence and other subjects of a similar nature.

Topic:

Media

Issue:

What means can be utilized to control radio, and television programming towards the end that these contribute to the strengthening of the family?

Policy Recommendations:

That a public policy be established to control radio and tv programming based upon their impact on the individual and the family.

Program Recommendations:

That an agency or organization be established in Puerto Rico to receive complaints, evaluate, recommend, supervise, and classify radio and tv programming. Require that at least 1 percent of program time be dedicated specifically to the area of the strengthening of the family. Regulate the time of transmission of programs based on the primary classification system.

Strategy Recommendations:

Collect the necessary evidence or documentation to demonstrate how programs actually affect the family. Solicit via letters, telegrams, and other forms of pressure the establishment of this agency or organization.

Topic:

Media

Issue:

How can the public be helped in order that the communications media be utilized to strengthen the family?

Policy Recommendations:

That there be a public policy directed at the education of citizens in order to effectively utilize the communications media.

Program Recommendations:

That schools doing training in the communications media arts establish programs and seminars to orient the public on the effective use of the communication media. That courses be offered to agencies to develop programs that can compete favorably with commercial ones. That the Department of Instruction through its stations and broadcast outlets and programming cooperate in educating the public on public media utilization in order to strengthen the family.

Strategy Recommendations:

Educate the public to listen only to those programs that may have a positive impact on the family. Attempt to have commercial media firms support and deliver programs that strengthen the family. Develop an awareness in the public vis a vis the responsibility it has to evaluate, control that which is watched, heard or read in the household.

Topic:

Children and Parents

Issue:

What prevention methods can government take with couples about to enter into matrimony to encourage the formation of stable families in order to achieve a healthy, home environment?

Policy Recommendations:

That public policy be revised towards the end of strengthening the family from its initiation and formation emphazing education and prevention.

Program Recommendations:

Establish marriage clinics to prepare future partners. Require a compulsory curriculum based on family matters in the educational system. Legislate the certification of a preparatory course for marriage or a pre-requisite for a marriage license. Revise the marriage law.

Strategy Recommendations:

Revise the curriculum on engagement, marriage, and responsible parenthood. Train professionals to implement the suggested curriculum. Develop a scientific study to reveal contempory family life and current needs. Mobilize the public agencies and public programs, private programs to encourage the implementation of the actions previously suggested.

Topic:

Children and parents.

Issue:

How can orientation and treatment be offered to families in order to avoid their debilitation and disintegration?

Policy Recommendations:

That services for orientation and treatment to strengthen the family assume priority in public policy.

Program Recommendations:

Establish family orientation and treatment centers for families that can offer services outside of working hours. Strengthen existing agencies or organizations to offer family services. Establish services which families pay for in accordance with their incomes.

Strategy Recommendations:

Educate the public to utilize existing community resources for the orientation, counseling, and treatment of families.

Topic:

Children and Parent.

Issue:

How can the state take steps in regard to teen age pregnancies?

Policy Recommendations:

That the state recognize the importance of sex education in the prevention and reduction of teen age pregnancies.

Program Recommendations:

Offer sex education and courses in family life at all levels of schooling. Train professionals for the effective fulfillment of this task.

Strategy Recommendations:

Collect and present statistical data related to this topic. Educate the public in the importance of sex education

Topic:

Education

Issue:

In what form can communication between home, school and community be improved to enhance and contribute to family life?

Policy Recommendations:

In public policy it should be mandatory that a consulting committee consisting of parent, students, teachers and representatives of difference sectors of the community be created to establish effective communication between the home, school and community.

Program Recommendations:

Legislate as mandatory the establishment of consulting committees in the schools. Establish and vigorously pursue the law that parents are obligated to send their children to school, increasing the age for required attendance. Offer stimulating workshops to parents, teachers, students and volunteers in Human Relations and Family Life. Provide flexible hours so that teachers can visit homes. Revise and vigorously enforce regulations related to students and teachers. Assign more guards and security volunteers to protect school safety.

Strategy Recommendations:

Stimulate maximum participation of parents, students, teachers, and other members of the community in making of decisions related to the affairs of the school. Stimulate parents and other members of the community to volunteer services to students after proper training.

Topic:

Education.

Issue:

How can government improve teaching excellence in order to benefit the family?

Policy Recommendations:

That first priority be given by public policy on education to assure a process of teaching and learning of major effectiveness in contributing to the strengthening of the family.

Program Recommendations:

Revise criteria for the selection and appointment of teachers. Revise university curriculum that prepare teachers. Provide training and retraining programs based on the needs of the educational system. Revise the standards and procedures for evaluating ucational processes. Organize the schools on an inter-disciplinary basis and on flexible schedules in accordance with the needs of teachers and students. Strengthen social work, health and vocational services and orientation.

Strategy Recommendations:

That the public be mobilized to implement the suggested actions. Educate the public to organize groups of parents who can demand major participation in children's educational process. Create student organizations that can prevent ways of improving the teaching - learning process.

Topic:

Education

Issue:

In what form can a school's curriculum contribute to the development of ethical, moral, and spiritual values in such a way that families life is strengthened?

Policy Recommendations:

The public policy of the State should favor the development of ethical, moral and spiritual values in the individual as a member of a family.

Program Recommendations:

Implement a curriculum in the schools that promulgates the development of ethical, moral and spiritual starting at the pre-school level.

Strategy Recommendations:

Establish a working committee for the revision of school curricula and the evaluation of the same forthwith.

Topic:

Child Care.

Issue:

How can it be established that all firms or agencies of public service that serve or employ persons with pre-school children under their care or responsibility provide day care services during working hours for these children?

Policy Recommendations:

Recognize the importance of helping families to attend to the care and attention of pre-school children.

Program Recommendations:

Legislate that all firms, agencies, commercial centers, hospitals and other public and private facilities provide child care services while people work and/or receive services. Provide these agencies economic incentives for those services.

Strategy Recommendations:

That the Commission for the Strengthening of the Family in coordination with the Department of Labor and other agencies and entities relevant do a study of the day care needs of families to whom they offer services and do an inventory of physical and human resources.

Topic:

Child Care

Issue:

How can the state assure that all minors receive adequate attention during the hours that their parents are out of the home working or studying?

Policy Recommendations:

Recognize the importance of helping families to meet the needs of child care and attention.

Program Recommendations:

That public and private schools offer tutorial services, recreational activities and/or physical education during after school hours. That community centers and/or recreational playgrounds have adequate supervision. Amend immediately the Social Services Law (Title XX) to include Puerto Rico and its benefits.

Strategy Recommendations:

That the Commission for strengthening the family conduct a study of day care needs, services and programs for minors and use the results to make recommendations for the development and implementation for these as well as legislation deemed relevant. Mobilize the public to support the amendment of the Title XX legislation to extend its benefits to Puerto Rico.

Topic:

Child Care

Issue:

How can it be assured that minors whose parents or guardians cannot offer them an adequate home because of separation, divorce, disability or death, enjoy a satisfactory and permanent home?

Policy Recommendations:

That public policy be adopted to assure that all minors removed from their natural homes benefit from a plan that will place them in a permanent home no later than 6 months after removal.

Program Recommendations:

Legislate to create a program to offer services to the natural home and a program for subsidizing adoption.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Collect data to support the need for this service.
2. That the Department of Social Services prepare legal feasibility proposals to create both programs.
3. Mobilize the public and/or especially persons affected and/or interested to approach legislation to approve the recommended legal proposition.

Major Subject Category Families and Economic Well Being.

Topic: Financial Assistance

Issue: How can it be required that Federal Government consider those incapacitated and institutionalized aged residents who excluded by Law #96-113, Section 273.1 d. (1) (2) as eligibles for participation in the Food Stamp Program?

Policy Recommendations: The Federal Government should adopt as Public Policy that the aged or disabled who are institutionalized with no independent incomes can become eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program.

Program Recommendations: The United States Congress should amend Section 273.1 d. of how #95-113 of the 29th of September 1977 on the Food Stamp Program as to consider eligible the aged and disabled residing in non-profit institutions.

Strategy Recommendations: Affected and interested persons should write legislators and concerned agencies to approve the suggested amendments. Those non profit with scarce financial resouces, mainly received from community contribution and in which aged and disabled reside who are affected by this law, should organize as a group to offer relevant information about the prevailing situation of these two vulnerable groups in the community and how their situation would improve with the amendment of the law.

Topic:

Financial Assistance (Well Being and Reform)

Issue:

How to achieve that agencies providing assistance to families have more and better supervision over the use of this assistance?

Policy Recommendations:

That government establish a policy of supervision of recipient families so that assistance offered is utilized for the purposes created.

Program Recommendations:

Revise laws that implement the food stamp program and economic assistance and amend if necessary to require recipients use the assistance appropriately subject to penalties for violations.

Strategy Recommendations:

Evaluate a number of cases periodically in accordance with established regulations in short term and long term basis. Supervise more closely those who receive

Topic:

Financial Aid

Issue:

How can federal agencies make it compulsory that citizens receiving benefits from social welfare programs contribute labor to serve the community in order to avoid dependency and the moral degradation of the families?

Policy Recommendations:

It should be public policy that all citizens receiving welfare contribute labor to community as long as their health permits.

Program Recommendations:

That social welfare laws be amended to achieve these ends.

Strategy Recommendations:

Develop campaigns relating to the creativity and productivity in the development of the person. Develop a public awareness of the necessity of helping and community and providing the opportunity to do so. Create programs that emphazise creativity and not consumerism and that all existing programs be re-evaluated.

Major Subject Category from the Sample Topic Outline:

Families and Human Needs

Topic: **Care of the Aged**

Issue: How can the state help families make the most adequate decision related to care of the aged in accordance with the needs and resources of the family group?

Policy Recommendations: It should be public policy to encourage care of the aged within the household. Assuming the family offers the best environment for the development of its members, (The State should develop an action plan suitable to and coordinated to provide sustaining services) and for the care of the aged within the nuclear family.

Program Recommendations: That The Congress of The United States assign federal funds to Puerto Rico (Title XX and others) to create, enlarge and maintain maintenance services like day care, house keeper and others. Amend the medicare regulations in order to permit paying costs of care for the aged within the home.

Strategy Recommendations: Collect and analyze legislation related to the care of the aged to identify areas of need that require legisla tive action. Stimulate the organization of family groups with aged members (consumers of services) to coordinate with states those services which are consistant with the needs of these families.

Topic: Care of The Aged

Issue: How can the state provide adequate alternative homes for all aged in need of care?

Policy Recommendations: It should be public policy to see that the aged receive adequate care in or out of the home.

Program Recommendations: Assign regularly provided economic resource to expand substitute care and service to needy aged, independent of his/her social and economic status, in such a way that whether or not financial assistance is offered a home and a family is provided with whom there is compatibily.

Strategy Recommendations: Coordinator a massive campaign of education and recruitment of substitute homes within the citizenry. That the aged meed as chapters to have the necessary funds allocated to implement the program.

Topic: Care of The Aged

Issue: How can the state assure that care of the aged provided by the private sector is of quality

Policy Recommendations: It should be public policy to oversee the adequate care of the aged in or outside of the home.

Program Recommendations: That the designation of adequate financial resource, (federal and state) be regulated to assure that law #94 of 1977 is implemented vigorously licensing centers at regional linils, That the Consumer Affairs Department regulate the cost of services in private facilities in accordance with the quality of services offered.

Strategy Recommendations: Maintain a regular system of supervision to assist operators in maintaining their licenses. That users and their families request cop controll based upon the level of services received.

Topic: Health

Issue: What additional steps can be taken to alert the public regarding the noxious effects of inbibing alcohol and drugs.

Policy Recommendations: That public policy be reviewed on the control, the use and abuse of alcohol and drugs.

Program Recommendations: That education and prevention programs be strengthened. That the drinking of alcohol in public places of common use, and the announcement of commercials on alcoholic drinks via radio T.V., newspapers and movies be controlled by legislation.

Strategy Recommendations: Orient individuals and civic groups to become social action groups to vigorously demand the recommended legislation.

Topic: Health

Issue: How can mental health services be increased for minors with mental illness?

Policy Recommendations: That attention to the mental health needs of minors receive first priority within mental health services.

Program Recommendations: Prepare proposals and budgets to offer mental health services to minors. Educate the public to recognize, support and encourage the proposed legislation

Strategy Recommendations: The Office for the Development of The Whole Child should launch a study of the problems of children and youth under 18 and propose legislation for the re-structuring and development of a mental health program for the young. Establish more facilities for hospitalization and half-way houses for children and youth mental health. Increase educational services and facilities for these minors.

Topic:

Health

Issue:

In what way can government promote and implement health service a family medicine focus?

Policy Recommendations:

It should be public policy that the state adopt a family inter-diciplinary focus for health services.

Program Recommendations:

Train personnel to structure a plan for family medicine. Amend the Medicaid and Medicare Law to pay for all interdisciplinary materials..(physicians, social workers, nutritionists, phychologists, etc...) That health services being recommended be paid for in proportion to the resources of the family.

Strategy Recommendations:

The public should demand the implementation of a program of family medicine, that Congress be petitioned to amend the Medicaid and Medicare programs to authorize payment for materials mentioned. Educate the public to understand the limited resources and to contribute economically to alleviate the costs.

Major Subject Category from the Sample Topic Outline:

Families and the Economy

Topic:

Families and Work

Issue:

How can it be assured that conditions of employment help to strengthen family life.

Policy Recommendations:

That it be public policy to encourage that the individual harmonize his role as employee and that of being a member of his nuclear family.

Program Recommendations:

That the law be amended and revised to allow government employees to work part time or on a reduced working schedule. Legislate to create flextime. That measures similar to those of private firms.

Strategy Recommendations:

Orient the employee about the resources available at different work places that strengthen the family. Educate employers about their responsibility for the well being and functioning of families of their employees. Mobilize the public to support and encourage the revisions and amendments proposed to the legislature with urgency.

TOPIC:

Families and Work

Issue:

What can be done to benefit youth between 16 and 24 that are unemployed.

Policy Recommendations:

That it be public policy to give first priority to the problems of unemployed youth age 16 to 24.

Program Recommendations:

Establish a special curriculum for the technical and professional preparation at different educational levels and provide incentives to student youth aged 16 - 24 to increase school attendance and retention rates. Encourage programs which provide incentives to agricultural labor among youth.

Strategy Recommendations:

Stimulate youth to stay in school and get better preparation for the world of work by taking vocational courses and/or technical courses that are in demand. Promote working committees in the schools, agencies and community organization whose functions relate to the development and utilization of youth between the ages of 16 and 24 years and that form part of the labor market.

Topic:

Families and Work

Issue:

What means can be taken to encourage the participation of the working groups in activities that enhance the well functioning of their respected families?

Policy Recommendations:

That it should be public policy to strengthen families of workers on the basis of actions taken at the workplace.

Program Recommendations:

1. Legislate so that the public and private sector adopt a system of flexible hours.
2. Establish day care centers at the workplace and develop recreational facilities for the entire family.
3. Amend the retirement laws to require 25 years instead of 30 years of service for retirement if resources allow.

Strategy Recommendations:

Orient employers and the public sector to the necessity of developing activities, physical facilities, and human services which permit the worker to fulfill the dual roles of employee and responsible member of the family. Stimulate and provide for voluntary and active participation and public service of those unemployed for long periods of time receiving unemployment insurance or food stamps, to guarantee the development and maintenance of work skills which will allow him to compete in the employment market and thereby unfold his family life.

Topic: Housing

Issue: How can the public become familiar with the advantages and disadvantages of different types of housing so they can choose the type adequate to their needs.

Policy Recommendations: Educate the public with respect to housing modes available and how one or the other satisfies the needs of each family in particular the nuclear one with special needs.

Program Recommendations: Establish a code of ethics at the state level that serves as a guide to all agencies,public and private, related to housing services so that orientation to housing law, selectors, and utitization be in accordance with the needs of families in particular. Conduct a study on the problems of multi family dwellings in order to find solution to these.

Strategy Recommendations:

Orient citizens at the moment of selection of a house and when they move from one type of housing to another in order to achieve a better adjustment.

Topic:

Housing

Issue:

How can government contribute to the increase of available housing in rural as well as urban areas?

Policy Recommendations:

Strenghten public policy in order to guarantee that each family live in adequate housing as much in rural

Program Recommendations:

That State and Federql agencies coordinate efforts to deal with housing problems. Increase State and Federal subsidies for rural housing. Offer incentives to the housing rental market and revise the the housing law to increase the jurisdiction of "D.A.C.D." in this regard.

Strategy Recommendations:

Orient the public with regard to housing eligibility. Increase housing construction in the basis of mutual aid. Establish a Rural Housing Advisory Council which includes both private and public sectors. Encourage families to move from one area to another to achieve a better adaption.

Topic:

Housing

Issue:

How can housing become an element in the proper functioning of the nuclear family and members of the community?

Policy Recommendations:

Reinforce public policy of government to consider in planning, design, construction and use of housing the effect and influence of that housing on the family and community.

[illegible]

Revise Federal and State statutes which set minimum standards for the construction of housing consistant with the needs of families. Push for legislation to strengthen and coordinate programs of development and organization of the community using the family and its housing as a frame of reference.

Strategy Recommendations:

Educate, from the beginning of their professional training those individuals invovled in the planning, design, construction of housing to the influence of these on the lives of the family and its community. Motivate the community to work toward the strengthening of the family. Stimulate citizen participation in organizational activities at the community level and encourage those in adjacent communities. Organize residential forums to solve the problems of families and their communities.

Topic:

Families as Consumers

Issue:

How can government be made to give major emphasis to consumer protection programs?

Policy Recommendations:

That Federal Government establish the public policy of offering consumer protection services to the consumer in an intergrated manner!

[illegible]

That Federal Government legislate a consumer protection agency empowered by law to achieve its ends. Coordinated the work of these different agencies that intervien in programs and policies of cunsumer protection and orientation

Strategy Recommendations:

The organization of consumer groups and representatives of relevant agencies to achieve the creation of a consumer protection agency. Mobilize the public to support and encourage legislation to this effect.

Topic:

Families and Consumer

Issue:

How can government help the family as a consumer combat the high cost of living?

Policy Recommendations:

That methods of reducing the inflationary spiral be reinforced.

Program Recommendations:

Enforce laws and practices which are anti-monopolistic and control prices.

Legislate to:
- a. Require economic consultation in credit institutions.
- b. Extend labeling laws for clothing in Puerto Rico.
- c. Label in Spanish indicating the quality of merchandise in Puerto Rico.
- d. Allow salary deductions authorized by one employee to be deposited in commercial banks.

Strategy Recommendations:

Educate the public about existing programs in combating the high cost of living and how to better utilize these.
That a major proportion of products produced in Puerto Rico be distributed to local markets without their having to be exported to the mainland and re-imported to Puerto Rico. Expand centers for the orientation on how to budget and administer money.
Mobilize citizens to support legislation of the proposed actions.

Major Subject Category from the Sample Topic Outline:

Families and Econmoic Well Beings

Topic:

Families as consumer.

Issue:

How can priority be achieved with regard to the education of the of the consumer and the minimizing of commercial propaganda so that the basic needs of the family are attended to?

Policy Recommendations:

That government reinforce public policy on consumer education and regulate commercial announcement that affect the family as a consumer.

Program Recommendations:

Legislate to increase consumer education and orientation budget in order to regulate the quality and quantity of information progress directed at the consumer. Training of professionals to work on the economics and protection of the consumer. Design curriculum on the economics of the consumer and provide courses at all academic levels and provide education through all available communication media.

Strategy Recommendations:

Stimulate consumers and legislators to strengthen consumer education programs. Organize consumer groups to monitor interests and move to support helpful legislation.

RHODE ISLAND

Topic:
① Special Challenges
Issue:

1. Handicapping Conditions:
    - A. Financial and other support for families with mentally disturbed or retarded members.
    - B. Accessibility of public buildings and information concerning accessibility.
    - C. Special consideration for non-English speaking families.

Topic:
① Special Challenges
Issue:

2. Support of Single Working Parent
    - A. Welfare discrimination
    - B. Training for employability

Topic:
② Health
Issue:

1. Mental Health
    - A. Emotional climate of the family
    - B. Needed Research

Topic:
② Health
Issue:

2. Food and Nutrition
    - A. Federal support needed; nutrition counselling programs
    - B. Availability, quality and cost of health care
    - C. Health education in the schools
    - D. Drug and alcohol abuse (of all issues, alcohol abuse was named most often)

Topic:
③ Children and Parents
Issue:

1. Supports for parents and children
   - A. for traditional family model
   - B. for families with special needs
   - C. for all parents and all children
   - D. for flex-time
   - E. for homemakers bill of rights

Topic:
③
Issue: Children and Parents

2. Adoption/Foster care (homefinding)

Topic:
③ Children and Parents
Issue:

3. Parent/child relations
   - A. Communicating
   - B. Teaching parentive skills

Topic:
④ Child Care
Issue:

1. Quality home care:
   - A. Availability
   - B. Lincensing Standards

Topic:
④
Issue: Child Care

2. Variety of Choices
   - A. Family; community; private or publicly supported
   - B. Involvement of fathers

Topic:
④ Child Care
Issue:

3. Cost of child care: realistic day care payments needed

Topic:
⑤ Issue: Family Crises

1. Abortion
   (issues on all sides of this question were raised)

Topic:
⑤ Family Crises
Issue:
2. Family violence

Topic:
⑤ Family Crises
Issue:

3. Adolescent pregnancy: education needed for preventive and support

Topic:
⑤ Issue: Family Crises

4. Effect of plant closings and runaway shops on the family

Topic:

Issue: Community institutions

1. Religious and cultural organizations
   (role of religion as it relates to the family)

Topic:
⑥ Community Institutions
Issue:

2. Civic and fraternal organizations
   (role of libraries in the lives of the family)

Topic:
⑦ Government -- local, state, federal
Issue:

1. Sensitivity to families
   A. Need for sexual privacy
   B. ERA ratification, pro & con
   C. Need for media to be sensitive to its total audience

Topic:
⑦ Government -- local, state, federal
Issue:

2. Military (non-draft of women)

Topic:

7 **Issue:** Government -- local, state, federal

3. Accountability to families
   (decentralization of education)

Topic:

7 **Issue:** Government -- local, state, federal

4. Access

   A. Federal programs and the need to address the needs of and provide support for the mentally ill.

   B. Availability of universal social services

Topic:

7 **Issue:** Government -- local, state, federal

5. Overall Family Perspectives

   Concern for the impact of unchecked inflation on families.

Topic:

Issue: Extended families and other family networks

1. Recognition of multiplicity of family life styles today
   (development of public policies)

Topic:

Issue: 8 Extended Families and Other Family Networks

2. Need for access to all systems by the traditionally alienated: gay, displaced homemakers, elderly, ethnic and cultural minorities, single parents, etc.

Topic:

8 **Issue:** Extended Families and Other Family Networks

3. Dignity and rights for the gay community

Topic:

8 **Issue:** Extended Families and other Family Networks

4. Lack of employment for older persons

Topic:
⑨ Financial Assistance
Issue:

Welfare and Welfare Reform:

Impact of public assistance on the family unit: need to re-evaluate current policies; need for universal program to provide minimum income support.

Topic:
Insurance and Pensions
Issue:

1. Concern for exploitation of elderly in the area of medi-gap insurance sales

Topic:
⑩ Insurance and Pensions
Issue:

2. Need for pension and other pre-retirement planning and assistance

Topic:
⑩ Insurance and Pensions
Issue:

3. Concern for exploitation of elderly in the area of medi-gap insurance sales

SOUTH CAROLINA

Problem: (Topic) Financial Concern

Issue: How can the family have more control over their income?
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Establish wage and price controls.
2. Control government taxation and spending.
3. Stabilize prime interest rates.
4. Curb inflation.
5. Set example of thrifty fiscal management.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Reduce state taxes.
2. Lobby for state sunset legislation.
3. Share services within communities: cooperatives, raising food.
4. Know your government and political leaders and help make them more responsible.
5.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Increase self-sufficiency.
2. Be responsible in spending.
3. Increase productivity.

Problem: (Topic) Financial Concerns

Issue: What are the unique things local and national government can do to
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)
reduce and control inflation?

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Balance the federal budget.
2. Cut out waste, graft, inefficiency, and increase good productivity.
3. Limit government growth.
4. Promote fairness in business profits.
5. Implement wage and price controls.
6. Establish control of credit (less easy, etc.)

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Encourage families not to buy beyond their means.
2. Conduct seminars in money management.
3. Reduce the overwhelming amount of media motivation "to buy."
4. Tell people about or establish consumer cooperatives for self-help and self-study for families.
5.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Balanced family budget (living within their means)
2. Participation in car pooling.
3. Learn what local and state governments can and have done to control inflation. Be an advocate of this.

Problem: (Topic) Financial Concerns

Issue: How can the family learn to manage money better?
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Offer more government education in this area.
2. Offer more money management training in schools.
3. Sponsor T.V. spots on money management.
4. Write loans and charge accounts in easier language.
5. Offer assistance and planning for families in crisis.

6. Restructure public "aid groups" to include specific money management training.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Sponsor consumer education as central topic in their social groups.
2. Teach effective use of credit (cards, etc.)
3. Monitor T.V. advertising: exploitation or enhancement.
4. Start self-help groups.
5. Make political leaders accountable: Those who tax and spend must account.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Develop home production skills - gardening, clothing.
2. Plan before shopping.
3. Teach advertising and sales selectivity.
4. Make family budgets
5. Set family priorities.

Problem: Lack of Parenting and Family Life Skills
(Topic)

Issue: What methods or programs should be developed or increased to support
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

or bring about responsible parenting?

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Provide family counseling and parenthood education (Pre and post).
2. Provide community parenting seminars, including materials, space, and time. - (Businesses).
3. Urge media to be responsible for using influence in the cause of good parenthood.
4.
5.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Sponsor and conduct programs and workshops to help people help themselves. Example: Child Care classes, family financial management, nutrition, etc.
2. Organize and follow through on parent training programs.
3. Provide local crisis intervention counseling to parents and children.

4. Provide information of services available to parents and children with problems.
5. Coordinate with schools to assist in new education.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Focus on better communication.
2. Seek counseling if you are a troubled parent.
3. Be a good role model.
4. Develop awareness of individual responsibility.
5. Try to provide consistent discipline, security, love, understanding, and open communication within family unit.

Problem: (Topic) Lack of Parenting and Family Life Skills

Issue: How can parents be provided support for assuming a more responsible
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

parenting role?

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Provide child care facilities
2. Provide tax incentives for full time parents.
3. Provide flexible work schedules.
4. Provide media support for effective parenting in public and private networks.
5.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Organize community based family life activities.
2. Provide low cost baby-sitting for young families.
3. Require pre-marital counseling (Religious institutions)
4. Sponsor Parent Effectiveness Training programs.
5.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Share experiences.
2. Plan group activities for family.
3. Enroll in a Parent Effectiveness Training class.
4. Encourage longer courtship and engagements.

Problem: (Topic) Substance Abuse

Issue: How can our society deal with the growing problem of substance abuse?
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Develop enforceable laws.
2. Encourage research into long-range effects of use of chemicals.
3. Draw parallels between abuse of legal and illegal substances.
4.
5.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Inform the public of the harmful effects of alcohol and drug abuse.
2. Treat problem as a health issue rather than a legal issue.
3. Educate people as to the interaction of drugs.
4.
5.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Teach a mature understanding and use of all substances.
2. Provide family life education.
3. Encourage development of healthy self concept.

Problem: Spiritual and Moral Values
(Topic)

Issue: How can a pluralistic society and culture in which families must
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

live identify and reinforce ethical and moral values?

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Control effectively illegal drugs and pornography.
2. Support common values in good family life and successful business.
3. Utilization and dissemination of sound research.
4. Adjust work schedule to respect family structure.
5. State and businesses to sponsor "Family of the Year", and other family consciousness and status raising events.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Enhance the role of the religious institutions.
2. Sponsor self-study groups.
3. Offer value clarification workshops.
4. Foster national and religious patriotism and loyalty.
5.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Participate in religious and ethical-morality programs.
2. Supervise selective use of T.V.
3. Obtain more school counselors of high moral values.
4. Respect the rights of others.
5. Communicate complaints to proper authorities for those who act unethically and immoral.
6. Arrange devotional/prayer and family meeting time.
7. Participate in husband/wife dialogue daily at a regular set time.
8. Participate in family dialogue daily at a regular set time.
9. Share household and family responsibilities.

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Refuse to sponsor immoral programs.
2. Bring prayer or some devotions back into school.
3. Be more supportive of programs and policies that foster family values.
4. Support of youth groups (Businesses)
5. Control all phases of pornography.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Sponsor more wholesome religious and family activities - recreational.
2. Promote wise use of leisure time.
3. Foster learning opportunities.
4.
5.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Arrange family togetherness.
2. Select and attend religious institution regularly.

Problem: (Topic) Spiritual and moral values.

Issue: How can we identify and clarify those values essential to a family?
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Fund value clarification programs for employees.
2. Promote value clarification training in schools.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Sponsor value clarification programs.
2. Develop programs to encourage family participation.

3. Be aware of existing problems.
4. Generate high standard of moral conduct from leaders.
5. Nurture expression of child and adolescent natural alturism.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Participate in ethical, moral, and spiritual programs.
2. Place more emphasis on nurturing of children.
3. Arrange more family togetherness.
4. Go to religious institution regularly.

Problem: Family Disunity
(Topic)

Issue: What can be done to alleviate the stresses and tensions produced in
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)
families by divorce?

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Government could review and make alterations in laws currently governing marriage and divorce.
2. Family life education mandated by state education system.
3. Government and businesses should become sensitive to their own practices which mitigate against the family.
4.
5.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Educate persons to the seriousness of the consequences of both marriage and divorce.
2. Provide family living courses.
3. Provide intervention opportunities.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Identify patterns of interaction which create weaknesses and strengths within the family and take steps in the direction of unity and accord.
2. Support non-intact (example: single-parent) families by members of intact families.

Problem: Family Violence
(Topic)

Issue: How can individuals be better prepared for marriage and parenthood?
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Mandate family life education programs in school system in all grades.
2. Provide educational programs for employees.
3. Educate the public through multi-media resources.
4. Provide incentives and bonuses for completion of courses.
5.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Provide workshops on Preparation for Marriage.
2. Provide workshops on Positive Parenting/Parenting Skills.
3. Educate the community on the Realities of Marriage and Parenthood.
4. Provide self-help opportunities in the community.
5.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Provide a positive model for individuals to emulate.
2. Study and prepare for a major life activity.
3. Participate in marriage counseling programs.
4. Families encourage education in marriage preparation.

Problem: Family Violence
(Topic)

Issue: What can be done to break the cycle of child/spouse/parent abuse?
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Provide educational grants for community awareness.
2. Provide professional counseling/consulting service.
3. Minimize pressures/stress of employee responsibility.
4. Identify families at risk early.
5. Provide shelters for abused children/spouses/parents.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Provide support groups for abusive parents and for abused children.
2. Provide workshops/seminars focusing on "Prevention" of Family Violence.
3. Disseminate information to increase community awareness.
4. Provide recreational and educational day care and residential resources for abused children.
5. Provide courses in "Parenting."

What can individuals or families do?

1. Seek support groups - assist each other.
2. Use available professional expertise.
3. Report abuse.
4. Participate in organizations such as Parents Anonymous.
5. Develop positive self-concepts.

Problem: (Topic) Unemployment

Issue: How can communities and individuals meet employment needs.
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Provide training opportunities in school and industry.
2. Work to bring more industry to South Carolina.
3. Increase growth in private industry - decrease government dependence.

4. Hire qualified personnel(executives) from local community or state.
5. Increase employment opportunities for youth.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Promote support of job training.
2. Encourage education.
3. Write congressmen in support of "Right to Work Law"
4. Assist local leadership in attracting new industry.
5. Plan for future with attracting industry in mind.

What can individuals or families do? .

1. Encourage education.
2. Participate in community programs.
3. Be willing to work at available jobs.
4. Encourage less dependence on government aid.
5. Include career planning as a family activity

Problem: Teen Pregnancy
(Topic)

Issue: In what ways can teenaged pregnancies by reduced or prevented?
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Provide and fund Family Life and Sex Education in public schools curriculum (K-12) including funds for training teachers.
2. Sponsor mass media campaigns and programs on problems of teenaged sexuality, pregnancy, and responsible birth control.
3. Increase funding of family planning programs and programs for adolescent parents.
4. Offer health and sex education programs for employees (Businesses)
5. See that media avoids sex role stereotyping and enhancing an image of sexual irresponsibility.
6. Conduct research on the incentive efforts of providing health and social services: welfare assistance for pregnant teens.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Support and advocate inclusion of health and sex education programs in public schools (K-12).
2. Sponsor sex education programs and affordable counseling services for teens and parents at community level.
3. Religious institutions must accept more responsibility for providing family life education programs and counseling services.
4. Promote affordable family planning services through private and voluntary organizations.
5.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Parents should take a more active role in education of their children in areas of sexuality, morality, and parenting.
2. Parents should emphasize responsibility of males in preventing teen pregnancy.
3. Parents should set proper standards of behavior and model them.
4. Parents should concentrate on providing a home environment that encourages open communication, security and love.
5. Parents should take advantage of available community education dealing with sexuality, parenting, and communication with children.

Problem: Housing
(Topic)

Issue: What can be done about the lack of adequate housing in South Carolina?
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Provide more and better inspections of housing.
2. Encourage home improvement of existing and abandoned homes.
3. Provide more and better income for housing.
4. Provide low-interest loans for low and moderate income families.
5. Have stricter penalties for those who violate housing codes - statewide housing code.
6.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Encourage and sponsor community clean-up campaigns.
2. Buy or build homes or apartments and rent them.
3. Give guidance in finance.

4. Make clients aware of regulations pertaining to housing.
5. Conduct programs promoting good housekeeping and sanitation habits.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Take advantage of educational programs.
2. Learn to make simple home repairs.
3. Instill responsibility for care of property.
4. Form neighborhood clean-up campaign.
5. Make elected officials aware of housing needs in community.
6. Provide enabling opportunities for do-it-ourselves projects.

Problem: (Topic) Care of the Elderly.

Issue: How can the housing conditions of the elderly be improved?
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Establish housing facilities appropriate for elderly.
2. Private business should be encouraged to provide clean low cost housing for the elderly.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Encourage officials to obtain funds to provide adequate housing.
2. Communities can provide support services for housing for the aging.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Monitor the physical condition of the house to see that it does not deteriorate.
2. Groups of individuals can help with minor chores.

Problem: (Topic) Care of the Elderly

Issue: What efforts should be made to assist the elderly in transportation?
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Coordinate services by agencies.
2. Study the feasability of a "Transportation Coupon" program for senior citizens.
3. Private businesses should encourage use of public transportation through refunds or discount coupons.
4.
5.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Provide volunteer transportation.
2. Support or encourage use of public funds for transportation.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Share transportation with elderly.
2. Offer to run errands.
3. Include elderly in planned outings.

Problem: (Topic) Care of the Elderly

Issue: How can the elderly maintain their position as a valuable member of society?
(Always written as a question and not answerable by yes or no.)

What can government or private business do about it?

1. Review laws and regulations which directly impact the elderly, i.e. Social Security.
2. Review laws and regulations which impact families who promote family unity by caring for family members.

What can groups, agencies, organizations, or communities do about it?

1. Provide counseling, support services to help elderly cope with changing situation.
2. Encourage utilization of skills of the elderly, i.e. as volunteers.
3. Support Senior Citizens Centers.
4. Encourage civic groups to establish projects which involve the elderly.

What can individuals or families do?

1. Family should accept responsibility of care of aged family members and keep them involved in family activities.
2. Provide or offer assistance to an elderly person in your community such as adoption of an elderly person.
3. Promote respect for elderly citizens.

VERMONT

Topic: ELDERLY AND FAMILIES

Issue: #1 How during the first half of life can positive attitudes toward aging and the elderly be promoted?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be government policy to support programs to encourage training of professionals in the field of gerontology.

Program Recommendations:

1. Legislate incentives for positive and varied media portrayal of the elderly.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Communities should encourage multi-age facilities and activities.
2. Incentives should be provided employers to employ older workers at prevailing wages.
3. Include the topic of aging in public school curriculum.

Issue: #2 How can maximum living options be offered for the elderly?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the Federal government to provide more subsidized housing for the elderly exempted from the zoning restrictions that prohibit elderly housing in otherwise desireable locations.

Program Recommendations:

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Vermont should expand and subsidize the transportation system for elderly people.
2. Provide government incentives of increased financial assistance for low income elderly living in their own home, or in extended family settings.
3. Eliminate financial penalties for marriage of the elderly.
4. Develop and expand support services and respite care to the elderly and their families on a sliding scale payment program.

Issue: #3 How can quality of life in long-term care for the elderly be improved?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Federal regulations should be changed to allow better reimbursement for community care home operators and better medicaid reimbursements for level II Nursing home patients.
2. Local communities should launch educational programs aimed at the better integration of long-term care facilities into the philosophical and physical core of the community. Vermonters should provide more education about long-term care for the families of recipient elderly people.

Topic: DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

Issue: #1 How can we educate the community at large and the family in particular, about the hazards of drug and alcohol abuse while encouraging healthier attitudes and behavior?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Vermonters should provide preventive education, including mental health education, in public schools (K-12) and the community, to enhance understanding of why people use drugs.
2. Americans should discourage the media, especially television, from glorifying the use of drugs and alcohol and promote family programming dealing responsibly and factually with these problems.
3. Vermonters should bring in rehabilitated persons as speakers to the schools for counseling and education.

Issue: #2 What policy and program changes are needed to help families in the control and treatment of alcohol and other drug use and abuse?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Treatment programs which involve the family members should be used in conjunction with mandatory alcohol and drug treatment programs for the individual.
2. Alcohol commercials should be removed from television and warning labels placed on alcoholic beverage containers.
3. Support must be provided so that residential treatment facilities can be made available for juvenile abusers.
4. Encourage churches, police departments and other community groups to sponsor programs and support treatment methods.
5. Vermonters should encourage community acceptance of the families of abusers.
6. We should encourage Vermonters to write their congressmen about policy and program changes.

Topic: DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

Issue: #3 What legislation is needed to support programs for education, prevention and treatment of alcohol and drug abuse?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government policy should prohibit subsidy of harmful drugs.
2. Government policy should mandate that the public be informed of any congressional action concerning any legislation on alcohol and drug abuse.
3. Americans should adopt a universal drinking age, state-to-state.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Federal government should require stricter controls over prescribing and dispensing of regulated drugs and impose stronger penalties for abuse.
2. Funds should be allocated for research into why people use drugs.

Topic: CHILD CARE

Issue: #1 How can affordable, quality child care be provided for all children, regardless of age or income, especially those of working parents?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. We recommend a coordinated system of equal public and private support (both philosophical and financial) for child care programs which should include:
    1. revisions of current tax laws to increase the amount of and broaden the availability of tax credits for child care expenses;
    2. incentives for industry and business to provide financial support for child care (for example, a national public education campaign regarding increased productivity of workers in business with on-site child care programs and insurance incentives).
2. We recommend that public school buildings and other facilities be used as space for quality child care programs for school age children during non-use times such as before and after school, during vacation (summer) and other periods of non-use.

Issue: #2 What changes and additions are needed in policy and programs to support the single parent? By whom? For whom?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. We recommend widely available skilled counseling opportunities for single parents that utilize the public education system, self-help groups, mental health agencies, public recreation programs, etc. in order to provide psychological and employment support to prevent isolation.

2. We recommend a coordinated system of equal public and private support (both philosophical and financial) for child care programs which should include:
    1. revisions of current tax laws to increase the amount of and broaden the availability of tax credits for child care expenses;
    2. incentives for industry and business to provide financial support for child care (for example, a national public education campaign regarding increased productivity of workers in business and industry with on-site child care programs and insurance incentives).

3. We recommend the incorporation of parenting skills and family life courses within the public school system beginning at the junior level in order to encourage positive family relationships.

4. We recommend that employers and schools be educated regarding the special needs of single parents and their children.

Issue: #3 What changes or additions in policies or programs should be made to provide support to parents and children in parent/child relationships? By whom? For whom?

Policy Recommendations:

1. We recommend a reordering of federal budget priorities to support all human services necessary to support and strengthen families.
2. We recommend that, in order to support parenting as a valid, worthwhile and creative task, it should be the policy of the government to make it possible financially for a mother or father to stay home to care for their children.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. We recommend a coordinated system of equal public and private support (both philosophical and financial) for child care programs which should include:
    1. revisions of current tax laws to increase the amount of and broaden the availability of tax credits for child care expenses;
    2. incentives for industry and business to provide financial support for child care (for example, a national public education campaign regarding increased productivity of workers in business/with on-site child care programs and insurance incentives). and industry
2. We recommend the incorporation of parenting skills and family life courses within the public school system beginning at the junior high level in order to encourage positive family relationships.

3. We recommend the formation and publicizing of parent support groups to share parenting concerns and childcare on a community level.

Topic: HEALTH EDUCATION

Issue: #1 How can health education better support and enhance family life?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal, and local state governments to:
   a) provide incentives as well as funds to state and local governments to support health education;
   b) create a federally supportive environment for health education so that
   - persons with special needs may receive appropriate marriage, parenting, family planning and preventive counseling.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Utilize, strengthen and integrate existing programs through media, the private sector, volunteer community groups, schools, public health, etc., to extend health education services.
2. Provide incentives to these groups to insure such services.

Issue: #2 How can health care be made available to all, particularly meeting the needs of a rural population?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of federal, state and local governments to provide comprehensive health care, available to everyone, especially to rural populations.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Provide supplements to available insurance plans for health care to provide care for everyone (e.g., provide tax incentives to small businesses providing health insurance packages).

Issue: #3 How can the government provide support to ease the impact of catastrophic situations on families, such as those that care for the terminally ill, severely ill, handicapped, and psychologically stressed persons?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of federal and local governments to encourage and support progressive and traditional health care providers such as hospices, interim housing for the deinstitutionalized, visiting nurses, at the local level.

Topic: COMMUNITY NETWORKING: TRANSPORTATION AND ISOLATION

Issue: #1 How can existing community resources, alternative programs, and local government programs alleviate the isolation of the rural family and support and strengthen it as the central unit in society?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Vermonters should provide recreational programs in rural areas.
2. Locally controlled state networks should be formed to link existing private and public groups to develop alternative strategies.
3. Encourage communities to develop more after school, elderly and handicapped respite care, and short-term child care.
4. Vermonters should encourage year-round use of public school buildings to include community activities that support family life.
5. Establish equipment resource centers to enable families to borrow recreational and home maintainence equipment.
6. Develop libraries as community centers and programs that encourage family participation.
7. Provide low cost community education programs during the day.
8. Limit use of tax dollars by use of existing resources, public and private.

Topic: COMMUNITY NETWORKING: TRANSPORTATION AND ISOLATION

Issue: #2 What can be done to change public and private transportation policies, programs, and systems in order to enable rural families of all income levels and ages to travel comfortably and economically to places of work, life-long education, recreation, and family business?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be state policy to finance a transit system by subsidizing private and public groups in addition to seeking state and federal funding.
2. State and local policy should curtail use of large buses and their subsidies, substituting vans for all possible trips, broadening service to rural areas.
3. Issues/topics will not be evaded by bureaucratic terminology that ignores the needs addressed in the original issues/topics cited by counties.

Program Recommendations:

1. Use tax refunds to subsidize school systems for transportation.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Establish a state advisory group, with representatives from all counties, to advocate for a structural transit system.
2. Subsidies/bonuses for those who consistently car pool or use public transportation.
3. Form local committees to coordinate statewide information about a rural transportation system.
4. Provide tax incentives to local groups who operate a low-cost transit system.

Issue: #3 What can be done in the public and private sector to make services much more readily available and supportive for all people in rural areas?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Establish local co-ordinating networking councils in each county to include the County Extension Home Economist.
2. Establish state advisory board responsible for the transportation needs for people of all incomes and ages.
3. Service agency directors and staff should provide more leadership and contact with their communities and inaugurate telephone conferences, making more constructive use of meeting time.
4. Design more activity programs that involve the family as a unit.
5. By offering reduced rates, encourage expanded use by families of national/state parks.
6. Vermonters should create a media campaign that will promote a positive environment for family networking.

Topic: EDUCATION

Issue: #1 In what ways can family life education programs prepare all people for interpersonal (including marital and parental) relationships?

Policy Recommendations:

When there is government involvement the moral values of the community must be reflected in the programs and the option not to include them at all must be given.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Family life education and sexuality awareness should be taught to both adults and children in school and community.
2. A program should be implemented through the Extension Service, in conjunction with the media, that supports realistic sex-role models and an environment that encourages the growth of healthy relationships and therefore healthy families.

Issue: #2 What type of relationship should exist between families, individuals and communities and the educational system?

Policy Recommendations:

1. The rights and responsibilities of parents should be considered in educational policy decisions.
2. Government resources (revenue sharing) should be provided for community developed programs with minimal government control.

Strategy Recommendations:

Educational systems should take initiative to include parents, encourage them to participate and encourage appropriate community recognition for involvement in educational programs.

Issue: # 3 What kind of comprehensive health education programs would help to strengthen the family?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Parents should have the primary responsibility for their children's health education.
2. It should be the policy of the government to promote comprehensive health education in schools at all grade levels.

Topic: EMPLOYMENT: FAMILIES AND THE WORK PLACE

Issue: #1 What can be done to assist families to cope with inflation?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Federal government should establish credit limits.
2. Federal government should reduce military spending.
3. Federal government should increase incentives to local communities to reduce effects of inflation and improve employability by earmarking a percent of revenue sharing for child care, van pools, public transportation, training programs to meet local needs and limiting amounts that can be spent on hardware and tax reduction.

Program Recommendations:

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Local communities provide consumer counseling.
2. Federal and state governments must have balanced budgets to give credibility to government policies and to gain the trust of those governed.

Issue: #2 How can employment opportunities and employability be increased?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Provide government support for apprentice and training programs including subsidies that would gradually be reduced as employability increases.
2. Provide tax incentives for small business for training unskilled potential employees.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Give priority to employment training, counseling and support for persons responsible for families, displaced homemakers; programs should emphasize individualized, long-term effective employability.
2. Promote career education and advisory programs for youth, displaced homemakers and retired persons.
3. Industry should be encouraged to improve accessibility of jobs for rural people through decentralization, provision of transportation and flexible scheduling.

Issue: #3 How can employment conditions be made more responsive to the needs of the family?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government, private industry and labor unions should promote flexible work schedules, part time jobs, and job sharing among employees. Employees participating in these schedules should be eligible for all benefits on a pro-rated basis.
2. It should be government policy to provide tax credits for parents who remain at home to care for children and businesses that provide employee benefits described in 1 & 2 above, and child care expenses increase credit to 40% of incurred cost.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Government, private industry and labor unions should promote affordable accessible, and flexible child care arrangements for their employees, including: parental leave (for either parent) for birth and care of infants; on site child care; parental leave for care of sick children; voucher system to pay for child care and community involvement in developing quality child care alternatives.
2. Federal government should encourage public school system to develop family life education programs which focus on future role of working parents.

Topic: MEDIA AND ITS IMPACT ON FAMILIES

Issue: #1 How can the media dramatize the strength of the family and its positive aspects?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Americans should support efforts by local and national media to portray families with positive strengths i.e. "Who are the Debolts?"
2. We should encourage the dramatization of family problems and include positive problem solving techniques which lead to resolution.
3. WHCF should impress media that the positive needs of their consumers to build society's values are more important than programs based on monetary gain by advertising.
4. Government agencies like NEH should provide funding for family-oriented public television programming.

Issue: #2 What pressure can be brought to bear to insure better programs on national T.V. - especially during family hour? How can more educational issues be emphasized on radio and T.V.? How can newspapers and magazines be more family informative?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Federal government should have a policy to insist on quality programs by organizing an active advisory commission to consist of representatives of the U.S. Congress, media, FCC, FTC, advertisers and elected citizens; and by encouraging and funding positive programs that are already in effect.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Americans provide government supported competitions for quality programs for family hour, to be voted on by the public. Conference should urge the media (especially T.V. and radio) to involve grass roots persons and family oriented organizations (e.g. WHCF) in program planning. This would aid in presenting a more balanced view of family life--more realistic problem identification and problem solving.
2. The WHCF should impress media that the positive needs of their consumers to build society's values are more important than programming based on monetary gain by advertising.
3. Networks (T.V. and radio) should offer better quality prime-time family programs and local T.V. channels should be more responsive to the needs and interests of their own viewing audiences by encouraging shows to reflect these needs and interests; a first step would be moving prime time up to 7:00 P.M.

Issue: #3 What policies, practices and changes are needed in newspaper, magazines, movies, radio and T.V. to have a positive effect on families? By whom? For whom? By when? How?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Businesses and public agencies should support and encourage films that show resolutions of problems or exemplify mutual caring, understanding, commitment through trial to peaceful solutions. Films that show that:
   Love is stronger than hatred
   Good is stronger than evil
   Truth is stronger than falshood
2. That resolving problems can be more rewarding than avoiding them should be shown in media. More coverage should be provided of people who resolve problems successfully. We should portray people finding positive solutions by using good parenting skills. We should not just show problems - but the solutions also.

3. Americans should promote programs in the school, home and community to educate children about drugs and their harmful effects.
4. We should promote programs to educate parents about the use of medicinal drugs.
5. Advertising aimed at young children which is deceptive and leads to poor nutrition and materialism should be monitored and regulations be developed and enforced.
6. Family values should be promoted in the media.
7. Support and make attractive programs containing moral and value statements, religious ideals, and challenging circumstances.
8. Schools and parents should educate children how to make good use of television and how to avoid its harmful effects.

Topic: FAMILY CRISIS

Issue: #1 What can be done to prevent and treat family violence and support families in times of crisis?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Establish and fund community groups and shelters for victims in family violence and crises.
2. Involve other family members in treatment when a family member commits violent acts in the community.
3. Americans should promote adoption as an alternative to abortion.
4. Education from early childhood through life should be available to enhance communication and parenting skills. This should include courses geared at analyzing the effect of media on behavior. Family courses should have the same tax exemption provided professional education.

Issue: #2 What changes or additions are needed in policy or programs regarding separation/divorce, single parents and displaced homemakers?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Communities should support ways to stay together - how to resolve problems, communications, and help with financing, housing and education.
2. More programs (other than mental health) should be offered to support children of divorced and single parents themselves.
3. Media presentations showing people resolving their problems should be supported by local authorities.
4. Communities should sponsor mental health courses or center activities on communication skills, resolving problems.
5. States should make separation and divorce more difficult by lengthening time interval and requiring counseling before granting divorce.

Issue: #3 What can be done to prevent (schoolage) pregnancy and provide services to already pregnant youth?

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Earlier (i.e. 3rd grad) more comprehensive education in the areas of human anatomy, physiology, sexuality and implied individual responsibilities should be given.
2. Churches and community groups should be more involved in the areas of morality, responsibility, values, communication, education.
3. A wide range of health, education and social services should be available, and publicized.
4. Communities should continue to provide family planning services.
5. Encouragement, support and publicity should be given to programs to assist parents, schools, churches, voluntary agencies and community groups in the provision of education about human sexuality, birth control, and the responsibility of family life and parenting for young people.

Topic: ECONOMIC STRESS AND ITS IMPACT ON FAMILIES

Issue: #1 How can government economic policies be changed to support family unity?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Federal tax exemptions should be changed to support families.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Federal, state and local government should end discrimination against families through tax reform.
2. Change welfare regulations so that families do not have to separate to receive assistance.
3. Apply affirmative action principles to training/employment/advancement of household heads.
4. Reduce taxes by cutting unnecessary programs and reduce inflation.

Issue: #2 How can government programs be directed to support family economic self sufficiency?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Government policy should promote pay scales above assistance eligibility levels.
2. Change industry policy to encourage accessibility of jobs for rural people through decentralization, transportation and flextime.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Help working parents to remain self sufficient by assisting with work expenses (i.e. day care, travel).
2. Encourage industry and unions to provide meaningful job training and jobs which will lead to self sufficiency.
3. Government aid should make available a wide choice of housing.
4. Vermonters should encourage family planning.

VIRGINIA STATE REPORT

Preface

Virginia submitted their state report and indicated that the committee drafting the recommendations were unable to arrive at a consensus. Nevertheless, we have indicated Virginia where appropriate as a state expressing concern for a particular topic.

VIRGINIA

Topic: Families & Health Care

Issue: Prevent financial hardship to families from major medical expenses.

Policy Recommendations: There was no concensus achieved on recommendations at our state conference.

Topic: Families & Health Care

Issue: Develop nutrition education to prevent health problems & maintain good health.

Topic: The Elderly-Emotional & Social Needs

Issue: Help the elderly maintain independence.

Topic: The Elderly-Emotional & Social Needs

Issue: Increase the feelings of usefulness and contribution of the elderly.

Topic: Families with Inadequate Incomes

Issue: Forms of assistance to elderly on fixed incomes.

Topic: Families with Inadequate Incomes

Issue: Assist the single parent with inadequate income.

Topic: Teenage Pregnancy

Issue: Decrease rate of teenage pregnancy.

Topic: Teenage Pregnancy

Issue: Increase teenage parents childrearing skills and resources.

Topic: Family and School as Partners

Issue: Strengthen contacts between schools & homes.

Topic: Family and School as Partners

Issue: Utilize home and family to enhance a child's intellectual and social growth in school.

Topic: Families and the Media

Issue: Decrease violence in the media, especially in the form of entertainment.

Topic: Families and the Media

Issue: Government to fund efforts to make families aware of the services available to them.

Topic: Families in the Work World

Issue: Arrangements made for flex-time and part-time working options for workers who need help to promote their family life.

Topic: Families in the Work World

Issue: Make job sharing an option for persons who wanted this to promote their family life.

Topic: Day Care for Children, the Handicapped, and the Elderly
Greatest need for: 1) elderly
2) preschool

Issue: Encourage industry to provide day care facilities for employee's family members.

Topic: Day Care for Children, the Handicapped, and the Elderly
Greatest need for: 1) elderly
2) preschool

Issue: Increase the number of facilities available.

Topic: Children K-12: Family Life Education

Issue: Public education's role in preparing students with knowledge and skills for family living.

Topic: Families and the Tax Structure

Issue: Government needs to establish a more equitable tax structure regardless of marital status.

Topic: Families and the Tax Structure

Issue: Provide financial incentives for people who care for handicapped, elderly, and children.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE REPORT

The following is a list of priority issues. Massachusetts will be sending a final report which will be available at the Baltimore conference.

Parental rights

Government policies/intervention

Day care

Education

Right to life/abortion

Definition of the family

Family services/support systems

Religion and family life

Inflation/income

Breakdown of family

Health services/policies

Tax credits/reform

Single parents

Welfare reform

Cultural/racial heritages

PENNSYLVANIA INTERIM REPORT

Pennsylvania submitted a 234 page Interim Report which was too voluminous to reproduce for this mailing. They will be sending a summary of recommendations contained in this Interim Report which will be available at the Baltimore Conference.

Following is a listing of the state's major topics:

- Introduction
- Family As a Small Group
- Individual Concerns of Families
- Sexual Behavior
- Issues Related to Reproduction
- Trends and Change in Marriage and Family
- Marriage and Divorce
- Counseling and Education
- Minority Groups
- Organizations and Services to Families